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No. 34

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC.

March 16, 2006.

I hereby appoint the Honorable CANDICE S. MILLER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, how poignant is the Pentateuch story when the father-in-law of Moses boldly approaches the great law-giver and says:

"You are not acting wisely. You will surely wear yourself out, not only yourself but also the people around you. The task is too heavy for you. You cannot do it alone.

"Now listen to me, and I will give you some advice that God may be with you. Act as the people's representative before God, bringing to God whatever they have to say."

Then his father-in-law outlines for Moses how he is to delegate his work of overseeing and communicating with the people. He tells Moses to select "God-fearing and trustworthy helpers who hate dishonest gain for themselves. Moses is to form them into a pyramid of dialogue and decision-making that will reach down to the weakest voices in the community.

"Moses followed the advice of his father-in-law and did exactly what he said."

Lord God, help our brothers and sisters in Congress to go and do likewise,

seeking "not to be served but to serve" in Your holy name. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MCHENRY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain requests for 10 one-minute speeches on each side.

CHILD PORNOGRAPHY STING

(Mr. FOLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FOLEY. Madam Speaker, let me commend the administration, particularly Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, for his investigation that has busted a ring of 27 charged in a child pornography sting. Images traded worldwide on Internet chat room, despicable, disgusting, disgraceful conduct. Agents from the Justice Department, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and law enforcement authorities in several countries participated in this sting.

This is disturbing news about pedophilia at the youngest, youngest

age of children and victims. I urge the Senate to take up the House bill that was sent over in messages to help us rid this society of the scourge of child pornography, sexual exploitation, child molestation and finally get tough with the people that commit these heinous crimes against our most vulnerable. We have sent it overwhelmingly by voice vote to the other Chamber.

I urge Senator FRIST to bring his Chamber together to pass this vital legislation so we can continue to crack down on these monsters.

HUMAN HEALTH IN THE WORLD

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, yesterday we heard the new president of Liberia, Her Excellency Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, discuss the challenge her country faces from the greatest threat to human health in the world. It wasn't AIDS, tuberculosis, even the people shot and bombed in armed conflict. It was the needless death from water-borne disease. It is why one half the people who are sick today are ill. It has claimed more lives than all the wars in human history.

Today we start the World Water Forum in Mexico City. Currently; the State Department is at work preparing a plan for the United States to meet its commitment to safe drinking water and sanitation around the world. I hope our Congress reflects upon our responsibility to prevent this needless death, and that we step up to adequately fund these important programs in our foreign aid budget.

SOLUTIONS TO THE IMMIGRATION PROBLEM

(Mr. KELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H1063

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I am here to talk about border security solutions. I recently spent a week along the Mexican-California border to see firsthand how bad the problem of illegal immigration is, and, more importantly, what Congress can do to fix it. So how do we fix the problem?

First, we need to crack down on employers who knowingly hire illegal workers. Jobs are the magnet drawing illegal aliens across the border.

Second, we need to complete construction of the double fence for 700 miles along the border near populated urban areas. It worked in San Diego.

Third, where mountains and rugged terrain make completion of a double fence impossible, we need to have a virtual fence which consists of infrared cameras that enable agents to see the entire border.

Finally, we need more Border Patrol agents. Although Congress has already tripled the number of Border Patrol agents since the late 1980s, more are still needed. Madam Speaker, the House recently passed a tough border security bill that implements these solutions. I urge the Senate to act now.

NEED TO EXTEND RX DRUG DEADLINE

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, America's seniors are looking for some relief with the high cost of prescription drugs. The vast majority of seniors remain skeptical that the new Republican prescription drug plan will work for them, and therefore, many have not signed up and refuse to.

Congressional Republicans and the Bush administration did not only make this plan confusing to understand, but they also included a provision that will financially penalize seniors if they don't sign up for the plan by May 15. While most Democrats would rather replace the plan for a simpler one within the Medicare system, we do not want to see seniors penalized any further.

Without a deadline extension, seniors will encounter a 1 percent increase on their premiums for every month after they wait to sign up after the May 15 deadline. Since seniors would not be able to begin coverage after the deadline until January of next year, seniors would encounter a 7 percent Bush Medicare tax that would stay with them the rest of their lives.

This is simply not fair. Seniors are already having to pay enough for their prescription drugs. Mr. President, you have 2 months to change your mind. Don't punish our seniors, Mr. President.

COYOTE VS. COYOTE

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, the Old West shootouts continue in Texas. The border war has moved from the rural vastness and wide open spaces of the Rio Grande River to the big city.

Gunfire in the fourth largest city in America occurred this week in urban Houston. A blazing gun battle ensued between rival human smugglers, or coyotes, as we call them, fighting over turf. The outlaws were fighting over the precious cargo of illegal aliens. After the bullets stopped, 21 people were arrested.

The Houston Chronicle reports, the battle for human cargo occurred at a drop house where illegals are stored. "They are held until relatives pay the ransom to set them loose in America," according to officials.

It is reported the fees coyotes charge for smuggling individuals is anywhere from \$1,500 to \$70,000. Criminals make a profit off of illegals who unlawfully enter the United States. Agents report there is more money in smuggling illegals into the United States than smuggling drugs.

Until America secures the open southern border with Mexico, the lawlessness on the border will spread and breed more lawlessness in urban Americans. Americans and our government must have the moral will to protect the sovereignty of this Nation. And that's just the way it is.

REPUBLICAN DRUG BILL: DRUG COMPANY PROFITS BEFORE AMERICA'S HEALTH

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, the confusing and complicated Republican prescription drug plan will penalize seniors forever if they do not pick a plan by May 15. Unless the administration or Congress acts, 2 months from today, seniors will face a Bush prescription drug tax that will be added to their prescription drug premiums. We simply cannot allow this tax to take effect.

President Bush was in New York this week conceding a lot of problems with the drug plan so far. However, the President refuses to extend the deadline for seniors to sign up. If he doesn't change his mind, Congress must act.

Seniors are only looking for help for these skyrocketing prescription drug prices. They didn't ask for this confusing drug plan, nor is it to help them. But they need the help. This is both a critical health and financial decision for seniors who rely on prescription drugs to be healthier.

Democrats have a plan that would extend the drug enrollment period and eliminate penalties to the end of this year. It is time for us to join together and save American seniors a prescription drug tax that they cannot afford and simply do not deserve.

CONTRASTING ESTONIAN PRESIDENT MERI TO BELARUS DICTATOR LUKASHENKO

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I have time to speak about the death and passing of President Meri from Estonia who died Tuesday in his sleep. Deported to Siberia at the age of 12, he worked as a lumberman, a potato farmer. He got back to Estonia, graduated as a professor of history cum laude, was not allowed by the Soviets to practice that profession, became a playwright, was involved in the "Singing Revolution" and became the second president of the country of Estonia.

This is in contrast to the dictator Lukashenko, who as of today, has blocked European election monitors, has thrown out eight Scandinavians for doing polling, and has again arrested Alexander Milinkevich for campaign activities.

President Meri will be able to rest and sleep in a free, sovereign, democratic Estonia, while dictator Alexander Lukashenko will just have sleepless nights by depriving his country of freedom and democracy.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE WONDERFUL PEOPLE OF ITALY

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today I pay tribute along with my dear friend and colleague, Representative HENRY HYDE, to the wonderful people of Italy.

In the hours and days following the horrific terrorist attacks of September 11, hundreds of thousands of Italians rallied in Rome in sympathy with and in support of America.

Prime Minister Berlusconi visited the United States and in his public statements expressed these same sentiments. He rightly stated that these attacks were attacks against all nations.

A great honor bestowed upon visiting heads of states to the U.S. is the opportunity to speak before a joint session of Congress. During that appearance, he emphasized goals we all share; promoting democracy and protecting human rights. He called for continuation of the global efforts to fight terrorism.

Italy is a great ally of the United States, and I believe we should continue efforts to bring the people of both nations closer together.

As the representative for thousands of Italian Americans, I know, as they do, that our society has benefited strongly from the many contributions made by this vibrant community.

PROVIDING HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE TO SMALL BUSINESSES

(Mrs. KELLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KELLY. Madam Speaker, I represent New York's Hudson Valley, where small businesses are absolutely critical to our local economy. Our local small business owners and self-employed workers have repeatedly confirmed to me that the recent tax cuts are working and helping our small businesses create new jobs in our communities. But they also tell me time and again that one of the toughest challenges they face is being able to have affordable health care coverage for themselves and their workers.

This is frustrating, because we have passed the Small Business Health Fairness Act in the House to address this very problem, yet the politics of obstruction in the other body have kept the bill from passing into law.

Solving the problem of America's uninsured begins with helping small businesses. The facts are clear: Six out of 10 small businesses don't offer health insurance because they can't afford the high costs on their own in the private market.

The Small Business Health Fairness Act would provide them with lower costs, giving them the same group health insurance purchasing power already utilized by unions and large corporations. It will give 8 million currently uninsured small business workers the affordable health insurance they need.

Let us work with the other body to give small businesses on Main Street the same health insurance coverage as large firms on Wall Street.

CONGRESS MUST STEP IN TO EXTEND DEADLINE ON MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN REGISTRATION

(Ms. BERKLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, if the Bush administration does not act within the next 2 months, seniors who sign up for the Medicare prescription drug plan will be severely penalized. In less than 60 days, seniors who have not yet signed up for the plan will face a Bush Medicare drug tax for the rest of their lives.

The President has shown no interest in extending this arbitrary deadline. If the President won't act, Congress must.

House Democrats did not support this debacle of a prescription drug plan, but we don't want to see seniors penalized because the Republicans voted to create a confusing plan that most seniors believe won't work. Seniors need more time to make the right decision. They are understandably confused.

If the President won't act, House Republicans must join us in extending the deadline for seniors to sign up for the new drug plan. Democrats have introduced legislation that would give seniors 6 additional months to decide on the best plan for them. What is fair is fair. We simply cannot allow the Bush Medicare drug tax to take effect.

□ 1015

A BUILDING BLOCK IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH INDIA

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, today we will witness another important building block in the development of the strategic partnership between the United States and India.

By introduction of bipartisan legislation to amend the Atomic Energy Act, Congress will begin the important process of authorizing peaceful nuclear cooperation between two great democracies that share similar values of goals and hopes for the future.

While the title of this agreement focuses on nuclear cooperation, the scope of this proposal reaches far beyond nuclear issues. Improved strategic relations with India will promote non-proliferation, will increase our energy independence, will provide environmental protection, strengthen our national security, and create thousands of new jobs for American workers.

As the global economy becomes increasingly competitive and the threat of terrorism endangers all free nations, America faces a historic opportunity with our friend, India. Our countries should take advantage of this unique chance to deliver tremendous mutual benefits to both Indian and American families.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11.

THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET AND EDUCATION CUTS

(Mr. MORAN of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, at the beginning of the 21st century, America stands as the greatest economic and military power in the history of the world. We have been blessed with tremendous resources, wonderful natural resources. But the most precious of all of our resources is the human potential of America's workforce.

But we have to sustain the investment in that potential. Today, half of our students will not graduate from high school. And here we have a budget proposed by the President that has some of the deepest, most dangerous cuts ever proposed, eliminating voca-

tional education, eliminating 36 other programs designed to help teachers and students, cutting billions of dollars from college student loan programs.

In fact, 3.7 million children will not even get the reading and math help they were promised under the Leave No Child Behind Act. This is not going to sustain our economic power, Madam Speaker. It undermines our economic strength, and, in fact, it is bound to shortchange our children's future.

EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH AND THE EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, the demise of once-renowned South Korean embryonic stem cell researcher, Hwang Woo-Suk, has been well publicized. Once the darling of the research community, Dr. Hwang has since been disgraced, his research exposed as fraudulent, his methodologies shown to be unethical.

The fact that Dr. Hwang fabricated much of his research made big headlines. What was less noted, though, was that he coerced female members of his research team to donate their eggs for experimentation. This brought attention to a relatively unknown fact about embryo research.

It requires an enormous amount of human eggs, and the likelihood of women being exploited is great. This issue has brought together a coalition of pro-choice and pro-life women who are taking a stand against the exploitation of women by the biotech industry.

They point out that the egg extraction techniques required for this research can lead to infertility and even death. They are right to take such a stand against such exploitation, and we ought to stand with them.

PRESIDENT BUSH NEEDS TO SHAKE UP THE WHITE HOUSE

(Ms. WATSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, how low do the President's poll numbers have to go until he finally realizes that it is time to make some changes in his administration? Either he is to blame for all of the incompetence that we have seen out of the White House over the last couple of years, or he finds it a perfectly acceptable attribute in his key advisors.

With the ever-increasing violence in Iraq, it simply defies logic why Defense Secretary Rumsfeld still has a job. How many mistakes does Rumsfeld have to make before President Bush says enough is enough?

Then there is Secretary Chertoff. The White House can blame Michael Brown all they want for a tragically slow and

inadequate response to Hurricane Katrina, but a lot of the blame should be pointed right at the man in charge, Secretary Chertoff, who as of yesterday put a lot of the evacuees out on the street. And he still remains on the job.

Then there are the Under Secretaries who signed off on a deal that handed over operations of six U.S. ports to a foreign nation. Imagine that, outsourcing our homeland security to another nation. It is time for changes, Madam Speaker.

TRUST THE SENIORS ON MEDICARE

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, today we are just 60 days away from the deadline for seniors to sign up for the new Medicare part D prescription drug plan. This plan is giving seniors choices for prescription drug coverage that will cost less while offering more benefits.

Millions of seniors who were without access to drugs are now getting them, and many are saving thousands of dollars a year. In fact, the typical senior could see his or her total drug expenses drop by nearly 50 percent.

Those with limited income and resources could have nearly no expenses at all. It is a real shame that Democrats are trying to scare seniors away from enrolling in this program by saying it is complicated and confusing.

Fortunately, their attempts to sabotage the program are failing. According to a recent article in *The Washington Post*, 80 percent of senior citizens polled say they had no trouble signing up for or using the Medicare prescription drug plan.

Another poll conducted last week by Ayres, McHenry & Associates shows that 60 percent of seniors said that they were saving money by using the program. Madam Speaker, I trust the positive feedback from the actual folks using the program much more than the negative rhetoric of Democrats trying to turn this into a political issue.

A NATION PERMANENTLY AT WAR

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, 3 years ago the Bush administration spoke to a doctrine of preemption that formed the basis for the United States' attack on Iraq. Three years later, Americans finally know there were no weapons of mass destruction, Iraq did not have the intention or the capability of attacking the United States; that Iraq, in effect, was not in a position to attack us.

Now the American people know what a shambles the Bush administration's policy was in Iraq. Yesterday, the administration now identifies Iran as the

top threat, and states again that we have the right to preemptively attack any country. Are we here on the threshold of permanent warfare, where the administration can keep naming enemies, and the American taxpayers with their sons' and daughters' blood have to keep paying for wars that we should not get into?

We should not only vote against this supplemental appropriation, we should start to call into question the administration's entire international policy. They are setting America against the world, and we are paying for it every day.

THE LACK OF A DEMOCRATIC PLAN

(Mr. MCHENRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, a once great party left with nothing, nothing but a nifty little slogan, and that slogan is, "We can do better." Madam Speaker, that is the Democrat Party here in Washington, DC.

It was announced in the press in October that they were going to come out with their great agenda in November. November came and went, they had nothing.

In January they said, that is going to be the time we are going to lay out our agenda, our positive agenda for America. January came and went.

Twice more they set dates to roll out their agenda, but nothing. They got nothing except this nifty little phrase, "We can do better." It is a sad state of affairs when they have no agenda, no ideas. All they have is negative attacks, partisan attacks here in Washington. We need more, and we, the Republicans, can do better.

SUPPORT THE FUNDING FOR FIXING TEXAS LEVEES

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Madam Speaker, the lives and livelihood of tens of thousands of Texans in a major hurricane zone are at risk because of defective federal levees that only the federal government can repair.

I am here to ask that on the third vote this morning, our colleagues support an amendment offered on behalf of myself, Congressman ORTIZ, and Congress REYES to prevent another Hurricane Katrina-like disaster. This map shows the area of McAllen, Mission, Hidalgo, and Pharr, Texas—a booming community of hardworking Americans, small businesses, schools, hospitals, and nursing homes.

That is how it looks today. This is how it will look if those federal levees fail, covered not in blue plastic, but in water. Because the federal levees are up to 9 feet deficient in height according to a report of the U.S. State Department.

In order to prevent the destruction of the lives and livelihood of those hardworking Americans, we need the \$7.8 million modest appropriation proposed in our amendment. Save lives and prevent a tragedy from occurring by approving emergency appropriations to assist the repair of these important federal levees.

ROME AREA HISTORY MUSEUM

(Mr. GINGREY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Rome Area History Museum on their 10th anniversary of collecting, preserving, and presenting the history of northwest Georgia. In 1995, five men, C.J. Wyatt, Bobby McElwee, John Carruth, David Oswalt, and Ed Byars, recognized the need to create an institution dedicated to the history of Rome and the surrounding communities.

These founders gathered a group of dedicated volunteers and opened what has become one of the finest museums in the State of Georgia. The founders renovated a building on historic Broad Street to serve as their headquarters.

And after much labor, the Rome Area History Museum officially opened its doors on March 30, 1996. For the past 9 years, Bernard Neal has done a wonderful job as the museum's president.

Madam Speaker, as the museum celebrates a decade of educating teachers, researchers and visitors, I want to thank the volunteers and supporters for making the Rome Area History Museum all that it is today.

Museums like this add richness to our communities and preserve our Nation's history.

LIVING IN A FISCAL FANTASYLAND

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, today the Senate will vote on the \$781 billion increase in the national debt, the fourth debt limit increase in 5 years.

And the Republican Party continues to push tax policies that will drive us even deeper into debt. In 5 years, the Washington Republicans have racked up more new debt, more than \$3 trillion, than the entire debt amassed from 1789 to 1988. We are now borrowing more than \$600,000 per minute, \$218 billion this year alone.

In March 2001, President Bush promised, "We will pay off \$2 trillion of debt over the next decade. Future generations should not be forced pay back money that we have borrowed. We owe this kind of responsibility to our children and grandchildren."

Promises made, promises broken, a \$5 trillion mistake the President made.

Sadly, the administration and the Republican majority in this Congress continue to pursue their reckless, irresponsible, debt-creating policies.

How sad. How wrong. I tell the gentleman from North Carolina, it is not that we can do better, we did better.

□ 1030

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PUTNAM). Pursuant to House Resolution 725 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4939.

□ 1030

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4939) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, with Mrs. MILLER of Michigan (Acting Chairman) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. When the committee of the whole rose on Wednesday March 15, 2006, the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) had been disposed of and the bill had been read through page 76, line 20.

SEQUENTIAL VOTES POSTPONED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

An amendment by Mr. BURTON of Indiana.

An amendment by Mr. CAPUANO of Massachusetts.

Amendment No. 8 by Mr. DOGGETT of Texas.

An amendment by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey.

An amendment by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey.

An amendment by Mrs. FOXX of North Carolina.

An amendment by Mr. MELANCON of Louisiana.

Amendment No. 6 by Mr. JEFFERSON of Louisiana.

Amendment No. 7 by Mr. JEFFERSON of Louisiana.

An amendment by Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BURTON OF INDIANA

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered

by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. BURTON of Indiana:

Page 28, line 9, after the dollar amount insert the following: “(reduced by \$26,300,000) (increased by \$26,300,000)”.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 250, noes 172, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 45]

AYES—250

Aderholt	English (PA)	Lewis (CA)
Akin	Etheridge	Lewis (KY)
Alexander	Everett	Linder
Bachus	Feeney	LoBiondo
Baker	Ferguson	Lucas
Barrow	Fitzpatrick (PA)	Lungren, Daniel E.
Bartlett (MD)	Foley	Mack
Barton (TX)	Forbes	Maloney
Bass	Fortenberry	Manzullo
Beauprez	Fossella	Marshall
Berkley	Fox	Matheson
Biggert	Franks (AZ)	McCaul (TX)
Bilirakis	Frelinghuysen	McCotter
Bishop (GA)	Galleghy	McCrery
Bishop (UT)	Garrett (NJ)	McHenry
Blackburn	Gerlach	McHugh
Blunt	Gibbons	McIntyre
Boehlert	Gilchrest	McKeon
Boehner	Gillmor	McMorris
Bonilla	Gingrey	Meeks (NY)
Bonner	Gohmert	Melancon
Bono	Goode	Mica
Boozman	Goodlatte	Miller (FL)
Boustany	Granger	Miller (MI)
Boyd	Graves	Mollohan
Bradley (NH)	Green (WI)	Moore (KS)
Brady (TX)	Green, Gene	Moran (VA)
Brown (SC)	Gutknecht	Murphy
Burgess	Hall	Musgrave
Burton (IN)	Harris	Myrick
Buyer	Hastert	Neugebauer
Camp (MI)	Hastings (WA)	Ney
Campbell (CA)	Hayes	Northup
Cannon	Hayworth	Norwood
Cantor	Hensarling	Nunes
Capito	Herger	Nussle
Cardoza	Hinche	Osborne
Carter	Hobson	Oxley
Chabot	Hoekstra	Pascarell
Chandler	Hostettler	Pastor
Chocola	Hulshof	Pearce
Coble	Hunter	Pence
Cole (OK)	Hyde	Peterson (MN)
Conaway	Inglis (SC)	Peterson (PA)
Costa	Issa	Petri
Cramer	Istook	Pickering
Crenshaw	Jackson-Lee	Pitts
Crowley	(TX)	Platts
Cubin	Jenkins	Poe
Cuellar	Jindal	Pombo
Culberson	Johnson (CT)	Porter
Cummings	Johnson (IL)	Price (GA)
Davis (FL)	Johnson, Sam	Pryce (OH)
Davis (KY)	Jones (NC)	Putnam
Davis (TN)	Keller	Radanovich
Davis, Jo Ann	Kelly	Rangel
Davis, Tom	Kennedy (MN)	Regula
Deal (GA)	Kennedy (RI)	Rehberg
Delahunt	King (IA)	Reichert
DeLay	King (NY)	Renzi
Dent	Kingston	Reynolds
Diaz-Balart, L.	Kirk	Rogers (AL)
Diaz-Balart, M.	Kline	Rogers (KY)
Dingell	Knollenberg	Rogers (MI)
Doolittle	Kolbe	Rohrabacher
Drake	Kuhl (NY)	Ros-Lehtinen
Dreier	LaHood	Royce
Ehlers	Lantos	Ruppersberger
Emerson	Latham	Ryan (WI)
Engel	LaTourette	

Ryun (KS)
Saxton
Schmidt
Schwarz (MI)
Scott (GA)
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson

Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Sodrel
Souder
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Towns
Turner

Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Wynn
Young (FL)

NOES—172

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Andrews
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Bean
Becerra
Berman
Berry
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boswell
Boucher
Brady (PA)
Brown (OH)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Butterfield
Calvert
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Carnahan
Carson
Case
Castle
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Davis (AL)
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
Dicks
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Emanuel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Flake
Ford
Frank (MA)
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green, Al
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Harman
Hart

Hefley
Herseth
Higgins
Hinojosa
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jefferson
Johnson, E. B.
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kind
Kucinich
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Markey
Matsui
McCarthy
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Michaud
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Oberstar
Obey
Oliver
Ortiz
Otter
Owens

Pallone
Paul
Payne
Pelosi
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Ramstad
Reyes
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sabo
Salazar
Sanchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanders
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz (PA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sherman
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Spratt
Stark
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiberi
Tierney
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Vislosky
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Wexler
Woolsey
Wu

NOT VOTING—11

Boren
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Duncan

Evans
Hastings (FL)
Jones (OH)
Marchant

Strickland
Sweeney
Young (AK)

□ 1058

Messrs. THOMPSON of California, BROWN of Ohio, HINOJOSA, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Mr. HEFLEY changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Messrs. BONILLA, THORNBERRY, MCKEON, COBLE, BEAUPREZ, NEUGEBAUER, OXLEY, COLE of Oklahoma, SAM JOHNSON of Texas, DELAY, BONNER, SOUDER, RYAN of Wisconsin, LANTOS, Ms. BERKLEY,

Messrs. SHADEGG, TOWNS, MCINTYRE, CULBERSON, WYNN, KENNEDY of Minnesota, SHUSTER, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Messrs. BISHOP of Georgia, SHAYS, HENSARLING, DAVIS of Florida and PLATTS changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 45 on the Burton amendment to H.R. 4939, I was on leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CAPUANO

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. CAPUANO) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. CAPUANO:

Page 29, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert the following: “(increased by \$50,000,000)”.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 213, noes 208, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 46]

AYES—213

Abercrombie	Davis (FL)	Inslee
Ackerman	Davis (TN)	Israel
Allen	DeFazio	Jackson (IL)
Andrews	DeGette	Jackson-Lee
Baca	Delahunt	(TX)
Baird	DeLauro	Jefferson
Baldwin	Dent	Johnson, E. B.
Barrow	Dicks	Jones (NC)
Bass	Dingell	Kanjorski
Bean	Doggett	Kaptur
Becerra	Doyle	Kennedy (RI)
Berkley	Edwards	Kildee
Berman	Emanuel	Kilpatrick (MI)
Berry	Engel	
Bishop (GA)	English (PA)	Kirk
Bishop (NY)	Eshoo	Kucinich
Blumenauer	Etheridge	Langevin
Boswell	Farr	Lantos
Bradley (NH)	Fattah	Larsen (WA)
Brady (PA)	Ferguson	Larson (CT)
Brown (OH)	Filner	LaTourette
Brown, Corrine	Fitzpatrick (PA)	Lee
Butterfield	Foley	Levin
Capps	Forbes	Lewis (GA)
Capuano	Ford	Lipinski
Cardin	Frank (MA)	Lofgren, Zoe
Cardoza	Gerlach	Lowe
Carnahan	Gonzalez	Lynch
Carson	Gordon	Maloney
Case	Green, Al	Markey
Chandler	Green, Gene	Matheson
Clay	Grijalva	Matsui
Cleaver	Gutierrez	McCarthy
Clyburn	Harman	McCollum (MN)
Conyers	Herseth	McCotter
Costa	Higgins	McDermott
Costello	Hinche	McGovern
Cramer	Holten	McIntyre
Crowley	Holt	McKinney
Cuellar	Honda	McNulty
Cummings	Hookey	Meehan
Davis (AL)	Hoyer	Meek (FL)

Meeks (NY)	Rangel	Solis
Melancon	Reichert	Spratt
Michaud	Renzi	Stark
Millender-	Reyes	Stupak
McDonald	Reynolds	Tancredo
Miller (NC)	Ross	Tanner
Miller, George	Rothman	Tauscher
Moore (KS)	Roybal-Allard	Taylor (MS)
Moore (WI)	Royce	Thompson (CA)
Moran (VA)	Ruppersberger	Thompson (MS)
Murtha	Rush	Tierney
Nadler	Ryan (OH)	Towns
Napolitano	Sabo	Udall (CO)
Neal (MA)	Salazar	Udall (NM)
Ney	Sánchez, Linda	Van Hollen
Oberstar	T.	Velázquez
Obey	Sanchez, Loretta	Visclosky
Oliver	Sanders	Wasserman
Ortiz	Schakowsky	Schultz
Owens	Schiff	Waters
Pallone	Schwartz (PA)	Watson
Pascarell	Scott (GA)	Watt
Pastor	Scott (VA)	Serrano
Payne	Serrano	Shays
Pelosi	Shays	Sherman
Platts	Skelton	Skellon
Pomeroy	Slaughter	Smith (NJ)
Porter	Smith (NJ)	Smith (WA)
Price (NC)	Smith (WA)	Snyder
Radanovich		
Rahall		

NOES—208

Aderholt	Garrett (NJ)	Mica
Akin	Gibbons	Miller (FL)
Alexander	Gilchrest	Miller (MI)
Bachus	Gillmor	Miller, Gary
Baker	Gingrey	Mollohan
Barrett (SC)	Gohmert	Moran (KS)
Bartlett (MD)	Goode	Murphy
Barton (TX)	Goodlatte	Musgrave
Beauprez	Granger	Myrick
Biggert	Graves	Neugebauer
Bilirakis	Green (WI)	Northup
Bishop (UT)	Gutknecht	Norwood
Blackburn	Hall	Nunes
Blunt	Harris	Nussle
Boehlert	Hart	Osborne
Boehner	Hastings (WA)	Otter
Bonilla	Hayes	Oxley
Bonner	Hayworth	Paul
Bono	Hefley	Pearce
Boucher	Hensarling	Pence
Boustany	Herger	Peterson (MN)
Boyd	Hinojosa	Peterson (PA)
Brady (TX)	Hobson	Petri
Brown (SC)	Hoekstra	Pickering
Brown-Waite,	Hostettler	Pitts
Ginny	Hulshof	Poe
Burgess	Hunter	Pombo
Burton (IN)	Hyde	Price (GA)
Buyer	Inglis (SC)	Pryce (OH)
Calvert	Issa	Putnam
Camp (MI)	Istook	Ramstad
Campbell (CA)	Jenkins	Regula
Cannon	Jindal	Rehberg
Cantor	Johnson (CT)	Rogers (AL)
Capito	Johnson (IL)	Rogers (KY)
Carter	Johnson, Sam	Rogers (MI)
Castle	Keller	Rohrabacher
Chabot	Kelly	Ros-Lehtinen
Chocola	Kennedy (MN)	Ryan (WI)
Coble	King (IA)	Ryun (KS)
Cole (OK)	King (NY)	Saxton
Conaway	Kingston	Schmidt
Cooper	Kline	Schwarz (MI)
Crenshaw	Knollenberg	Sensenbrenner
Cubin	Kolbe	Sessions
Culbertson	Kuhl (NY)	Shadegg
Davis (KY)	LaHood	Shaw
Davis, Jo Ann	Latham	Sherwood
Davis, Tom	Leach	Shimkus
Deal (GA)	Leahy (CA)	Shuster
DeLay	Lewis (KY)	Simmons
Diaz-Balart, L.	Linder	Simpson
Diaz-Balart, M.	LoBiondo	Smith (TX)
Doolittle	Lucas	Sodrel
Drake	Lungren, Daniel	Souder
Dreier	E.	Stearns
Ehlers	Mack	Sullivan
Emerson	Manzullo	Taylor (NC)
Everett	Marchant	Terry
Feeney	Marshall	Thomas
Flake	McCaul (TX)	Thornberry
Fossella	McCrery	Tiaht
Fox	McHenry	Tiberi
Franks (AZ)	McHugh	Turner
Frelinghuysen	McKeon	Upton
Gallegly	McMorris	Walden (OR)

Walsh	Weller	Wilson (SC)
Wamp	Westmoreland	Wolf
Weldon (FL)	Whitfield	Young (AK)
Weldon (PA)	Wicker	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—11

Boozman	Duncan	Jones (OH)
Boren	Evans	Strickland
Davis (CA)	Fortenberry	Sweeney
Davis (IL)	Hastings (FL)	

□ 1107

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall No. 46, let the permanent RECORD reflect I intended to vote “aye.”

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 46 on the Capuano amendment to H.R. 4939, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MR. DOGGETT

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. FOSSELLA). The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 8 offered by Mr. DOGGETT:

Page 35, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert the following: “(increased by \$7,800,000)”.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 198, noes 221, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 47]

AYES—198

Abercrombie	Clyburn	Grijalva
Ackerman	Conyers	Gutierrez
Allen	Cooper	Hall
Andrews	Costa	Harman
Baca	Cramer	Herseth
Baird	Crowley	Higgins
Baldwin	Cuellar	Hinche
Barrow	Cummings	Hinojosa
Barton (TX)	Davis (AL)	Holden
Becerra	Davis (FL)	Holt
Berkley	Davis (TN)	Honda
Berman	DeFazio	Hooley
Berry	DeGette	Hoyer
Bishop (GA)	Delahunt	Inslee
Bishop (NY)	DeLauro	Israel
Blumenauer	Dicks	Jackson (IL)
Boswell	Dingell	Jackson-Lee
Boucher	Doggett	(TX)
Brady (PA)	Doyle	Jefferson
Brady (TX)	Edwards	Johnson, E. B.
Brown (OH)	Emanuel	Jones (NC)
Brown, Corrine	Engel	Kanjorski
Burgess	Eshoo	Kaptur
Butterfield	Etheridge	Kennedy (RI)
Capps	Farr	Kildee
Capuano	Fattah	Kilpatrick (MI)
Cardin	Feeney	Kind
Cardoza	Filner	Kucinich
Carnahan	Ford	Langevin
Carson	Frank (MA)	Lantos
Case	Gonzalez	Larsen (WA)
Chandler	Gordon	Larson (CT)
Clay	Green, Al	Lee
Cleaver	Green, Gene	Levin

Lewis (GA) Oberstar
 Lofgren, Zoe Obey
 Lowey Oliver
 Lynch Ortiz
 Maloney Otter
 Markey Owens
 Marshall Pallone
 Matheson Pascrell
 Matsui Pastor
 McCarthy Paul
 McCaul (TX) Payne
 McCollum (MN) Pelosi
 McDermott Poe
 McGovern Pomeroy
 McIntyre Price (NC)
 McKinney Rahall
 McNulty Rangel
 Meehan Reyes
 Meek (FL) Ross
 Meeks (NY) Rothman
 Melancon Roybal-Allard
 Michaud Rumpersberger
 Millender- Rush
 McDonald Ryan (OH)
 Miller (NC) Sabo
 Miller, George Salazar
 Mollohan Sánchez, Linda
 Moore (KS) T.
 Moore (WI) Sanchez, Loretta
 Moran (VA) Sanders
 Murtha Schakowsky
 Nadler Schiff
 Napolitano Schwartz (PA)
 Neal (MA) Scott (GA)

NOES—221

Akin Fortenberry
 Alexander Fossella
 Bachus Foxx
 Baker Franks (AZ)
 Barrett (SC) Frelinghuysen
 Bartlett (MD) Gallegly
 Bass Garrett (NJ)
 Bean Gerlach
 Beauprez Gibbons
 Biggert Gilchrest
 Bilirakis Gillmor
 Bishop (UT) Gingrey
 Blackburn Gohmert
 Blunt Goode
 Boehlert Goodlatte
 Boehner Granger
 Bonilla Graves
 Bonner Green (WI)
 Bono Gutknecht
 Boozman Harris
 Boustany Hart
 Boyd Hastings (WA)
 Bradley (NH) Hayes
 Brown (SC) Hayworth
 Burton (IN) Hefley
 Buyer Hensarling
 Calvert Herger
 Camp (MI) Hobson
 Campbell (CA) Hoekstra
 Cannon Hostettler
 Cantor Hulshof
 Capito Hunter
 Carter Hyde
 Castle Inglis (SC)
 Chabot Issa
 Chocola Istook
 Coble Jenkins
 Cole (OK) Jindal
 Conaway Costello
 Costello Crenshaw
 Cubin Johnson (IL)
 Culberson Johnson, Sam
 Davis (KY) Keller
 Davis, Jo Ann Kelly
 Davis, Tom King (IA)
 Deal (GA) King (NY)
 DeLay Kingston
 Dent Kirk
 Diaz-Balart, L. Kline
 Diaz-Balart, M. Knollenberg
 Doolittle Kolbe
 Drake Kuhl (NY)
 Dreier LaHood
 Ehlers Latham
 Emerson LaTourette
 English (PA) Leach
 Everett Lewis (CA)
 Ferguson Lewis (KY)
 Fitzpatrick (PA) Linder
 Flake Lipinski
 Foley LoBiondo
 Forbes Lucas

Scott (VA) Serrano
 Sherman Skelton
 Simmons Slaughter
 Smith (TX) Smith (WA)
 Solis Snyder
 Spratt Sodrel
 Stark Souder
 Stupak Stearns
 Tauscher Sullivan
 Taylor (MS) Tancredo
 Thompson (CA) Thompson (MS)
 Tierney Towns
 Tiers Udall (CO)
 Udall (NM) Van Hollen
 Van Hollen Velázquez
 Velázquez Visclosky
 Wasserman Watterman
 Schultz
 Watson
 Watt
 Waxman
 Weiner
 Weldon (PA) Wexler
 Wexler Woolsey
 Wu
 Wynn

Sherwood Shimkus
 Shuster Shuster
 Simmons Simpson
 Simpson Slaughter
 Smith (WA) Snyder
 Snyder Sodrel
 Souder Stearns
 Sullivan Tancredo

Aderholt Boren
 Brown-Waite, Ginny
 Davis (CA)

Tanner Taylor (NC)
 Terry Thomas
 Thornberry Tiahrt
 Tiberi Turner
 Turner Upton
 Upton Walden (OR)
 Walsh Wamp

NOT VOTING—13

Davis (IL) Duncan
 Evans Hastings (FL)
 Jones (OH)

Weldon (FL) Weller
 Weller Westmoreland
 Whitfield Wickert
 Wilson (NM) Wilson (SC)
 Wolf Young (AK)
 Young (FL)

Smith (NJ) Strickland
 Sweeney Waters

□ 1114

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 47 on the Doggett amendment to H.R. 4939, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

□ 1115

(By unanimous consent, Mr. BOEHNER was allowed to speak out of order.)

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO LIMIT VOTING TIME

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Chairman, I want the Members to know that after this series of votes, it is my intention to ask unanimous consent that for the next series of votes that we have the first vote at 15 minutes, followed by succeeding 2-minute votes to help speed the process today. I did not want anybody to be surprised. I do not know whether the unanimous consent will go through, but I hope that it does. Members are all on notice.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. FOSSELLA). Without objection, the 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GARRETT OF NEW JERSEY

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey:

Page 35, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(reduced by \$5,000,000)".

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 75, noes 344, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 48]

AYES—75

Garrett (NJ) Miller, Gary
 Gibbons Moran (KS)
 Gingrey Musgrave
 Goode Myrick
 Graves Neugebauer
 Green (WI) Otter
 Gutknecht Paul
 Hall Pearce
 Hart Pence
 Hayworth Peterson (MN)
 Hensarling Petri
 Hinchey Pitts
 Hinojosa Poe
 Hostettler Reynolds
 Istook Ryon (KS)
 Johnson, Sam Sensenbrenner
 Jones (NC) Sessions
 Kind Shadegg
 King (IA) Shuster
 Kuhl (NY) Sodrel
 Linder Stark
 Marchant Tancredo
 Marshall Tanner
 McHenry
 McKinney Westmoreland
 Meehan

NOES—344

Cummings Hoyer
 Davis (AL) Hulshof
 Davis (FL) Hunter
 Davis (KY) Hyde
 Davis, Tom Inglis (SC)
 Deal (GA) Inslee
 DeFazio Israel
 DeGette Issa
 Delahunt Jackson (IL)
 DeLauro Jackson-Lee
 DeLay (TX)
 Dent Jefferson
 Diaz-Balart, L. Jenkins
 Diaz-Balart, M. Jindal
 Dicks Johnson (IL)
 Dingell Johnson, E. B.
 Doggett Kanjorski
 Doolittle Kaptur
 Doyle Keller
 Drake Kelly
 Dreier Kennedy (MN)
 Edwards Kennedy (RI)
 Ehlers Kildee
 Emanuel Kilpatrick (MI)
 Emerson King (NY)
 Engel Kingston
 English (PA) Kirk
 Eshoo Kline
 Etheridge Knollenberg
 Everett Kolbe
 Farr Kucinich
 Fattah LaHood
 Ferguson Langevin
 Filner Lantos
 Fitzpatrick (PA) Larsen (WA)
 Foley Larson (CT)
 Forbes Latham
 Ford LaTourette
 Fortenberry Leach
 Frank (MA) Lee
 Frelinghuysen Levin
 Gallegly Lewis (CA)
 Gerlach Lewis (GA)
 Gilchrest Lewis (KY)
 Gillmor Lipinski
 Gohmert LoBiondo
 Gonzales Lofgren, Zoe
 Goodlatte Lowey
 Gordon Lucas
 Granger Lungren, Daniel
 Carson E.
 Carter Green, Gene
 Case Grijalva
 Gutierrez Lynch
 Castle Harman
 Chandler Harris
 Clay Hastings (WA)
 Cleaver Hayes
 Clyburn Hefley
 Cole (OK) Herger
 Conyers Cooper
 Costa Higgins
 Costello Hobson
 Cramer Hoekstra
 Crenshaw Holden
 Crowley Holt
 Cuellar Honda
 Culberson Hooley

McMorris
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nunes
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Osborne
Owens
Oxley
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pelosi
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Platts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Radanovich

Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Sabo
Salazar
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanders
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz (PA)
Schwarz (MI)
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Simpson
Skelton
Simpson
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder

Solis
Souder
Spratt
Stearns
Stupak
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—13

Boren
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Duncan
Evans

Hastings (FL)
Johnson (CT)
Jones (OH)
Putnam
Strickland

Sullivan
Sweeney
Thompson (MS)

□ 1122

Mr. PORTER changed his vote from “aye” to “no.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 48 on the Garrett amendment H. AMDT. 714 to H.R. 4939, to reduce by \$5,000,000 funding for Diplomatic and Consular Programs, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GARRETT OF NEW JERSEY

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GARRETT) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey:

Page 36, strike line 14 and all that follows through line 21.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 78, noes 343, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 49]

AYES—78

Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Beauprez
Berry
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Boyd
Brady (TX)
Campbell (CA)
Chabot
Chocola
Coble
Conaway
Cubin
Davis, Jo Ann
Deal (GA)
Feeney
Flake
Fossella
Foxy
Franks (AZ)
Garrett (NJ)
Gibbons
Gingrey
Gohmert

Goode
Goodlatte
Graves
Green (WI)
Gutknecht
Hart
Hayworth
Hefley
Hensarling
Hostettler
Istook
Jindal
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Kennedy (MN)
Kind
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline
Kuhl (NY)
Linder
Marchant
McHenry
McKinney
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)

Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Norwood
Otter
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Poe
Porter
Reynolds
Ryun (KS)
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shuster
Sodrel
Stearns
Tancredo
Tanner
Taylor (MS)
Upton
Walden (OR)
Westmoreland

NOES—343

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Andrews
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barton (TX)
Bass
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Biggart
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Bradley (NH)
Brady (PA)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carson
Carter
Case
Castle
Chandler
Clay

Cleaver
Clyburn
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (FL)
Davis (KY)
Davis (TN)
Davis, Tom
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
Dent
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doolittle
Doyle
Drake
Dreier
Edwards
Ehlers
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Ferguson
Filner
Fitzpatrick (PA)
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Fortenberry
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Gerlach
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gonzalez
Gordon
Granger
Green, Al
Green, Gene

Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall
Harman
Harris
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heger
Herseth
Higgins
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hyde
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
King (NY)
Kirk
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaHood
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)

Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Lynch
Mack
Maloney
Manzullo
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murphy
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Ney
Northup
Nunes
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Osborne

Owens
Oxley
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pelosi
Peterson (PA)
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Sabo
Salazar
Sanchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanders
Saxton
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz (PA)
Schwarz (MI)
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood

Shimkus
Simmons
Simpson
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Solis
Snyder
Souder
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sullivan
Tauscher
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walsh
Wamp
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—11

Boren
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Diaz-Balart, L.

Diaz-Balart, M.
Duncan
Evans
Hastings (FL)

Rangel
Strickland
Sweeney

□ 1130

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 49 on the Garrett amendment, H. Amdt. 715 to H.R. 4939, to strike funding for Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. FOXX

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from North Carolina on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. FOXX:

Page 37, strike lines 6 through 21 (relating to Broadcasting Capital Improvements).

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 88, noes 333, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 50]

AYES—88

Ackerman	Gohmert	Neugebauer
Akin	Goode	Otter
Baker	Graves	Paul
Barrett (SC)	Green (WI)	Pearce
Bartlett (MD)	Gutknecht	Pence
Bass	Hall	Petri
Beauprez	Hayes	Poe
Berry	Hayworth	Porter
Bilirakis	Hefley	Renzi
Bishop (UT)	Hensarling	Reynolds
Blackburn	Hinchey	Ryun (KS)
Brown-Waite,	Hostettler	Sensenbrenner
Ginny	Istook	Sessions
Campbell (CA)	Jenkins	Shadegg
Chabot	Jindal	Sherwood
Chocola	Johnson, Sam	Shuster
Coble	Jones (NC)	Sodrel
Cole (OK)	Kaptur	Stark
Conaway	Kind	Stearns
Crowley	King (IA)	Sullivan
Cubin	Kuhl (NY)	Tancred
Deal (GA)	Linder	Tanner
DeFazio	Marchant	Taylor (MS)
Feeney	McHenry	Taylor (NC)
Flake	McKinney	Terry
Fossella	McMorris	Towns
Fox	Miller, Gary	Moran (KS)
Garrett (NJ)	Moran (KS)	Musgrave
Gibbons	Musgrave	Myrick
Gingrey	Myrick	

NOES—333

Abercrombie	Castle	Frank (MA)
Aderholt	Chandler	Frelinghuysen
Allen	Clay	Gallegly
Andrews	Cleaver	Gerlach
Baca	Clyburn	Gilchrest
Bachus	Conyers	Gillmor
Baird	Cooper	Gonzalez
Baldwin	Costa	Goodlatte
Barrow	Costello	Gordon
Barton (TX)	Cramer	Granger
Bean	Crenshaw	Green, Al
Becerra	Cuellar	Green, Gene
Berkley	Culberson	Grijalva
Berman	Cummings	Gutierrez
Biggert	Davis (AL)	Harman
Bishop (GA)	Davis (FL)	Harris
Bishop (NY)	Davis (KY)	Hart
Blumenauer	Davis (TN)	Hastings (WA)
Blunt	Davis, Jo Ann	Herger
Boehrlert	Davis, Tom	Herseth
Boehner	DeGette	Higgins
Bonilla	Delahunt	Hinojosa
Bonner	DeLauro	Hobson
Bono	DeLay	Hoekstra
Boozman	Dent	Holden
Boswell	Diaz-Balart, L.	Holt
Boucher	Diaz-Balart, M.	Honda
Boustany	Dicks	Hooley
Boyd	Dingell	Hoyer
Bradley (NH)	Doggett	Hulshof
Brady (PA)	Doolittle	Hunter
Brady (TX)	Doyle	Hyde
Brown (OH)	Drake	Inglis (SC)
Brown (SC)	Dreier	Inslee
Brown, Corrine	Edwards	Israel
Burgess	Ehlers	Issa
Burton (IN)	Emanuel	Jackson (IL)
Butterfield	Emerson	Jackson-Lee
Buyer	Engel	(TX)
Calvert	English (PA)	Jefferson
Camp (MI)	Eshoo	Johnson (CT)
Cannon	Etheridge	Johnson (IL)
Cantor	Everett	Johnson, E. B.
Capito	Farr	Jones (OH)
Capps	Fattah	Kanjorski
Capuano	Ferguson	Keller
Cardin	Filner	Kelly
Cardoza	Fitzpatrick (PA)	Kennedy (MN)
Carnahan	Foley	Kennedy (RI)
Carson	Forbes	Kildee
Carter	Ford	Kilpatrick (MI)
Case	Fortenberry	King (NY)

Kingston	Murtha	Schiff
Kirk	Nadler	Schmidt
Kline	Napolitano	Schwartz (PA)
Knollenberg	Neal (MA)	Schwarz (MI)
Kolbe	Ney	Scott (GA)
Kucinich	Northup	Scott (VA)
LaHood	Norwood	Serrano
Langevin	Nunes	Shaw
Lantos	Nussle	Shays
Larsen (WA)	Oberstar	Sherman
Larson (CT)	Obey	Shimkus
Latham	Olver	Simmons
LaTourette	Ortiz	Simpson
Leach	Osborne	Skelton
Lee	Owens	Slaughter
Levin	Oxley	Smith (NJ)
Lewis (CA)	Pallone	Smith (TX)
Lewis (GA)	Pascarella	Smith (WA)
Lewis (KY)	Pastor	Snyder
Lipinski	Payne	Solis
LoBiondo	Pelosi	Souder
Lofgren, Zoe	Peterson (MN)	Spratt
Lowe	Peterson (PA)	Stupak
Lucas	Pickering	Tauscher
Lungren, Daniel	Pitts	Thomas
E.	Platts	Thompson (CA)
Lynch	Pombo	Thompson (MS)
Mack	Pomeroy	Thornberry
Maloney	Price (GA)	Tiahrt
Manzullo	Price (NC)	Tiberi
Markey	Pryce (OH)	Tierney
Marshall	Putnam	Turner
Matheson	Radanovich	Udall (CO)
Matsui	Rahall	Udall (NM)
McCarthy	Ramstad	Van Hollen
McCaul (TX)	Rangel	Velázquez
McCollum (MN)	Regula	Visclosky
McCotter	Rehberg	Walden (OR)
McCrery	Reichert	Walsh
McDermott	Reyes	Wamp
McGovern	Rogers (AL)	Wasserman
McHugh	Rogers (KY)	Schultz
McIntyre	Rogers (MI)	Waters
McKeon	Rohrabacher	Watson
McNulty	Ros-Lehtinen	Watt
Meehan	Ross	Waxman
Meek (FL)	Rothman	Weiner
Meeks (NY)	Roybal-Allard	Weldon (FL)
Melancon	Royce	Weldon (PA)
Mica	Ruppersberger	Weller
Michaud	Rush	Wexler
Millender-	Ryan (OH)	Whitfield
McDonald	Ryan (WI)	Wicker
Miller (FL)	Sabo	Wilson (NM)
Miller (MI)	Salazar	Wilson (SC)
Miller (NC)	Sánchez, Linda	Wolf
Miller, George	T.	Woolsey
Mollohan	Sánchez, Loretta	Wu
Moore (KS)	Sanders	Wynn
Moran (VA)	Saxton	Young (FL)
Murphy	Schakowsky	

NOT VOTING—11

Alexander	Duncan	Moore (WI)
Boren	Evans	Strickland
Davis (CA)	Franks (AZ)	Sweeney
Davis (IL)	Hastings (FL)	

□ 1137

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina changed his vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 50 on the Foxx amendment to H.R. 4939, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. MELANCON

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. FOSSELLA). The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. MELANCON) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. MELANCON: Page 54, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert the following: “(increased by \$465,000,000)”.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 199, noes 215, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 51]

AYES—199

Abercrombie	Gonzalez	Napolitano
Ackerman	Gordon	Oberstar
Allen	Green, Al	Obey
Andrews	Green, Gene	Olver
Baca	Grijalva	Ortiz
Baird	Gutierrez	Owens
Baker	Harman	Pallone
Baldwin	Herseth	Pascarella
Barrow	Higgins	Pastor
Bean	Hinchey	Payne
Becerra	Hinojosa	Pelosi
Berkley	Holden	Peterson (MN)
Berman	Holt	Pickering
Berry	Honda	Pombo
Bishop (NY)	Hoolley	Pomeroy
Blumenauer	Hoyer	Price (NC)
Boswell	Inslee	Rahall
Boucher	Israel	Rangel
Boustany	Jackson (IL)	Reyes
Boyd	Jackson-Lee	Ross
Brady (PA)	(TX)	Rothman
Brown (OH)	Jefferson	Roybal-Allard
Brown, Corrine	Jindal	Ruppersberger
Butterfield	Johnson, E. B.	Rush
Capps	Jones (NC)	Ryan (OH)
Capuano	Jones (OH)	Sabo
Cardin	Kanjorski	Salazar
Cardoza	Kaptur	Sánchez, Linda
Carnahan	Kennedy (RI)	T.
Carson	Kildee	Sanchez, Loretta
Case	Kilpatrick (MI)	Sanders
Chandler	Kind	Schakowsky
Clay	Kucinich	Schiff
Cleaver	Langevin	Schwartz (PA)
Clyburn	Lantos	Scott (GA)
Conyers	Larsen (WA)	Scott (VA)
Cooper	Larson (CT)	Sherman
Costa	Lee	Skelton
Costello	Levin	Slaughter
Cramer	Lewis (GA)	Smith (WA)
Crowley	Lipinski	Snyder
Cuellar	LoBiondo	Solis
Cummings	Lofgren, Zoe	Spratt
Davis (AL)	Lowey	Stark
Davis (FL)	Lynch	Stupak
Davis (KY)	Maloney	Tanner
Davis (TN)	Markey	Tauscher
Davis, Tom	Matheson	Taylor (MS)
DeFazio	Matsui	Thompson (CA)
DeGette	McCarthy	Thompson (MS)
Delahunt	McCormack (MN)	Tierney
DeLauro	McCollum	Towns
Dicks	McDermott	Udall (CO)
Dingell	McGovern	Udall (NM)
Doggett	McIntyre	Van Hollen
Doyle	McKinney	Velázquez
Edwards	McNulty	Wasserman
Emanuel	Meehan	Schultz
Engel	Meek (FL)	Waters
Eshoo	Meeks (NY)	Watson
Etheridge	Melancon	Watt
Farr	Michaud	Waxman
Fattah	Millender-	Weiner
Ferguson	McDonald	Wexler
Filner	Miller (NC)	Woolsey
Fitzpatrick (PA)	Moore (KS)	Wu
Ford	Moore (WI)	Wynn
Fossella	Moran (VA)	
Frank (MA)	Nadler	

NOES—215

Aderholt	Biggert	Bono
Akin	Bilirakis	Boozman
Alexander	Bishop (UT)	Bradley (NH)
Bachus	Blackburn	Brady (TX)
Barrett (SC)	Blunt	Brown (SC)
Bartlett (MD)	Boehrlert	Brown-Waite,
Barton (TX)	Boehner	Ginny
Bass	Bonilla	Burgess
Beauprez	Bonner	Burton (IN)

Buyer	Hunter	Platts
Calvert	Hyde	Poe
Campbell (CA)	Inglis (SC)	Porter
Cannon	Issa	Price (GA)
Cantor	Istook	Pryce (OH)
Capito	Johnson (CT)	Radanovich
Carter	Johnson (IL)	Ramstad
Castle	Johnson, Sam	Regula
Chabot	Keller	Rehberg
Chocola	Kelly	Reichert
Coble	Kennedy (MN)	Renzi
Cole (OK)	King (IA)	Reynolds
Conaway	King (NY)	Rogers (AL)
Crenshaw	Kingston	Rogers (KY)
Cubin	Kirk	Rogers (MI)
Culberson	Kline	Rohrabacher
Davis (KY)	Knollenberg	Ros-Lehtinen
Davis, Jo Ann	Kolbe	Royce
Deal (GA)	Kuhl (NY)	Ryan (WI)
DeLay	LaHood	Ryun (KS)
Dent	Latham	Saxton
Diaz-Balart, L.	Leach	Schmidt
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lewis (CA)	Schwarz (MI)
Doolittle	Lewis (KY)	Sensenbrenner
Drake	Linder	Serrano
Dreier	Lucas	Sessions
Ehlers	Lungren, Daniel	Shadegg
Emerson	E.	Shaw
English (PA)	Mack	Shays
Everett	Manzullo	Sherwood
Feeney	Marchant	Shimkus
Flake	Marshall	Shuster
Foley	McCaul (TX)	Simmons
Forbes	McCotter	Simpson
Fortenberry	McCrery	Smith (TX)
Frelinghuysen	Fox	Smdel
Gallely	McHugh	Souder
Garrett (NJ)	McKeon	Stearns
Gerlach	McMorris	Sullivan
Gibbons	Mica	Tancredo
Gilchrest	Miller (FL)	Taylor (NC)
Gillmor	Miller (MI)	Terry
Gingrey	Miller, Gary	Thomas
Gohmert	Mollohan	Thornberry
Goode	Moran (KS)	Tiahart
Goodlatte	Murphy	Tiberi
Granger	Murtha	Turner
Graves	Musgrave	Upton
Green (WI)	Myrick	Visclosky
Gutknecht	Neugebauer	Walden (OR)
Hall	Ney	Walsh
Harris	Northup	Walsh
Hart	Norwood	Wamp
Hastings (WA)	Nunes	Weldon (FL)
Hayes	Nussle	Weller
Hayworth	Osborne	Westmoreland
Hefley	Otter	Whitfield
Hensarling	Oxley	Wicker
Herger	Paul	Wilson (NM)
Hobson	Pearce	Wilson (SC)
Hoekstra	Pence	Wolf
Hostettler	Peterson (PA)	Young (AK)
Hulshof	Petri	Young (FL)
	Pitts	

NOT VOTING—18

Bishop (GA)	Evans	Neal (MA)
Boren	Franks (AZ)	Putnam
Camp (MI)	Hastings (FL)	Smith (NJ)
Davis (CA)	Jenkins	Strickland
Davis (IL)	LaTourette	Sweeney
Duncan	Miller, George	Weldon (PA)

□ 1144

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 51 on the Melancon amendment to H.R. 4939, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. JEFFERSON

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JEFFERSON) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 6 offered by Mr. JEFFERSON:

In chapter 4 of title II, in the item relating to “FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY—DISASTER RELIEF”, after the aggregate dollar amount, insert the following: “(reduced by \$2,000,000,000)”.

In chapter 8 of title II, in the item relating to “COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT—COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND—(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)”, after the aggregate dollar amount, insert the following: “(increased by \$2,000,000,000)”.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 174, noes 248, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 52]

AYES—174

Abercrombie	Gonzalez	Oberstar
Ackerman	Green, Al	Olver
Allen	Grijalva	Ortiz
Andrews	Gutierrez	Owens
Baca	Higgins	Pallone
Baird	Holden	Pascarell
Baker	Holt	Pastor
Baldwin	Honda	Payne
Bean	Hooley	Pearce
Becerra	Hoyer	Pelosi
Berkley	Inslee	Peterson (MN)
Berman	Israel	Poe
Berry	Jackson (IL)	Pomeroy
Bishop (GA)	Jackson-Lee	Price (NC)
Bishop (NY)	(TX)	Rahall
Boswell	Jefferson	Rangel
Boustany	Jindal	Reyes
Boyd	Jones (NC)	Ross
Brady (PA)	Jones (OH)	Rothman
Brown, Corrine	Kanjorski	Roybal-Allard
Butterfield	Kennedy (RI)	Ruppersberger
Capps	Kildee	Rush
Capuano	Kilpatrick (MI)	Ryan (OH)
Cardin	Kind	Sabo
Cardoza	Kucinich	Salazar
Carnahan	Langevin	Sanders
Carson	Lantos	Schakowsky
Case	Schiff	Schiff
Chandler	Larsen (WA)	Schwartz (PA)
Clay	Larson (CT)	Scott (GA)
Cleaver	Lee	Scott (VA)
Clyburn	Levin	Serrano
Conyers	Lewis (GA)	Sherman
Cooper	Lipinski	Simmons
Costa	Lofgren, Zoe	Slaughter
Costello	Lowe	Solis
Crowley	Lynch	Smdel
Cubin	Maloney	Spratt
Cuellar	Markey	Stark
Cummings	Matsui	Stupak
Davis (AL)	McCarthy	Tanner
Davis (KY)	McCollum (MN)	Tauscher
Davis (TN)	McDermott	Taylor (MS)
Davis, Jo Ann	McGovern	Thompson (CA)
DeFazio	McKinney	Thompson (MS)
DeGette	McNulty	Towns
Delahunt	Meehan	Udall (CO)
DeLauro	Meek (FL)	Van Hollen
Dingell	Meeks (NY)	Velázquez
Doggett	Melancon	Wasserman
Doyle	Michaud	Schultz
Emanuel	Millender-	Waters
Engel	McDonald	Watson
Eshoo	Miller (NC)	Watt
Farr	Miller, George	Waxman
Fattah	Moore (KS)	Weiner
Flner	Moran (VA)	Woolsey
Fitzpatrick (PA)	Nadler	Wu
Ford	Napolitano	Wynn
	Neal (MA)	

NOES—248

Aderholt	Barrow	Biggert
Akin	Bartlett (MD)	Bilirakis
Alexander	Barton (TX)	Bishop (UT)
Bachus	Bass	Blackburn
Barrett (SC)	Beauprez	Blumenauer

Blunt	Hart	Otter
Boehrlert	Hastings (WA)	Oxley
Boehner	Hayes	Paul
Bonilla	Hayworth	Pence
Bonner	Hefley	Peterson (PA)
Bono	Hensarling	Petri
Boozman	Herger	Pickering
Boucher	Herseth	Pitts
Bradley (NH)	Hinchey	Platts
Brady (TX)	Hinojosa	Pombo
Brown (OH)	Hobson	Porter
Brown (SC)	Hoekstra	Price (GA)
Brown-Waite,	Hostettler	Pryce (OH)
Ginny	Hulshof	Putnam
Burgess	Hunter	Radanovich
Burton (IN)	Hyde	Ramstad
Buyer	Inglis (SC)	Regula
Calvert	Issa	Rehberg
Camp (MI)	Istook	Reichert
Campbell (CA)	Jenkins	Renzi
Cannon	Johnson (CT)	Reynolds
Cantor	Johnson (IL)	Rogers (AL)
Capito	Johnson, E. B.	Rogers (KY)
Carter	Johnson, Sam	Rogers (MI)
Castle	Kaptur	Rohrabacher
Chabot	Keller	Ros-Lehtinen
Chocola	Kelly	Royce
Coble	Kennedy (MN)	Ryan (WI)
Cole (OK)	King (IA)	Ryun (KS)
Conaway	King (NY)	Sánchez, Linda
Cramer	Kingston	T.
Crenshaw	Kirk	Sanchez, Loretta
Culberson	Klaine	Saxton
Davis (FL)	Knollenberg	Schmidt
Davis, Tom	Kolbe	Schwarz (MI)
Deal (GA)	Kuhl (NY)	Sensenbrenner
DeLay	LaHood	Sessions
Dent	Latham	Shadegg
Diaz-Balart, L.	LaTourette	Shaw
Diaz-Balart, M.	Leach	Shays
Dicks	Lewis (CA)	Sherwood
Doolittle	Lewis (KY)	Shimkus
Drake	Linder	Shuster
Dreier	LoBiondo	Simpson
Edwards	Lucas	Skelton
Ehlers	Lungren, Daniel	Smith (NJ)
Emerson	E.	Smith (TX)
English (PA)	Mack	Smith (WA)
Etheridge	Manzullo	Snyder
Everett	Marchant	Souder
Feeney	Marshall	Stearns
Ferguson	Matheson	Sullivan
Flake	McCaul (TX)	Tancredo
Foley	McCotter	Terry
Forbes	McCrery	Thomas
Fortenberry	McHenry	Thornberry
Fossella	McHugh	Tiahart
Fox	McIntyre	Tiberi
Frank (MA)	McKeon	Tierney
Frelinghuysen	McMorris	Turner
Gallely	Mica	Udall (NM)
Garrett (NJ)	Miller (FL)	Upton
Gerlach	Miller (MI)	Visclosky
Gibbons	Miller, Gary	Walden (OR)
Gilchrest	Mollohan	Walsh
Gillmor	Moore (WI)	Wamp
Gingrey	Moran (KS)	Weldon (FL)
Gohmert	Murphy	Weldon (PA)
Goode	Murtha	Weller
Goodlatte	Musgrave	Westmoreland
Gordon	Myrick	Wexler
Granger	Neugebauer	Whitfield
Graves	Ney	Wicker
Green (WI)	Northup	Wilson (NM)
Green, Gene	Norwood	Wilson (SC)
Gutknecht	Nunes	Wolf
Hall	Nussle	Young (AK)
Harman	Obey	Young (FL)
Harris	Osborne	

NOT VOTING—10

Boren	Evans	Sweeney
Davis (CA)	Franks (AZ)	Taylor (NC)
Davis (IL)	Hastings (FL)	
Duncan	Strickland	

□ 1151

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 52 on the Jefferson amendment H. Amdt. 718 to H.R. 4939, to increase funding for Community Planning and Development by \$2,000,000,000 and reducing

funding for the Federal Emergency Management Agency by the same amount, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MR. JEFFERSON

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. FOSSELLA). The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JEFFERSON) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 7 offered by Mr. JEFFERSON:

Page 72, line 18, after the dollar amount insert the following: "(increased by \$1,900,000,000)".

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 210, noes 212, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 53]

AYES—210

Abercrombie	Doggett	Lipinski
Ackerman	Doyle	Lofgren, Zoe
Allen	Edwards	Lowey
Andrews	Emanuel	Lynch
Baca	Engel	Maloney
Baird	Eshoo	Markey
Baker	Etheridge	Marshall
Baldwin	Farr	Matheson
Barrow	Fattah	Matsui
Bean	Filner	McCarthy
Becerra	Fitzpatrick (PA)	McCollum (MN)
Berkley	Ford	McDermott
Berman	Frank (MA)	McGovern
Berry	Gerlach	McIntyre
Bishop (GA)	Gohmert	McKinney
Bishop (NY)	Gonzalez	McNulty
Blumenauer	Gordon	Meehan
Boswell	Green, Al	Meek (FL)
Boucher	Green, Gene	Meeks (NY)
Boustany	Grijalva	Melancon
Boyd	Gutierrez	Michaud
Brady (PA)	Hall	Millender-
Brady (TX)	Harman	McDonald
Brown (OH)	Herseth	Miller (NC)
Brown, Corrine	Higgins	Miller, George
Burgess	Hinchey	Mollohan
Butterfield	Hinojosa	Moore (KS)
Capps	Holden	Moore (WI)
Capuano	Holt	Moran (VA)
Cardin	Honda	Murtha
Cardoza	Hookey	Nadler
Carnahan	Hoyer	Napolitano
Carson	Inslee	Neal (MA)
Case	Israel	Oberstar
Chandler	Jackson (IL)	Obey
Clay	Jackson-Lee	Olver
Cleaver	(TX)	Ortiz
Clyburn	Jefferson	Owens
Conyers	Jindal	Pallone
Cooper	Johnson, E. B.	Pascarell
Costa	Jones (NC)	Pastor
Costello	Jones (OH)	Payne
Cramer	Kanjorski	Pelosi
Crowley	Kaptur	Peterson (MN)
Cuellar	Kennedy (RI)	Platts
Cummings	Kildee	Poe
Davis (AL)	Kilpatrick (MI)	Pomeroy
Davis (FL)	Kind	Price (NC)
Davis (KY)	Kucinich	Rahall
Davis (TN)	Langevin	Rangel
DeFazio	Lantos	Reyes
DeGette	Larsen (WA)	Ross
Delahunt	Larson (CT)	Rothman
DeLauro	Lee	Roybal-Allard
Dicks	Levin	Ruppersberger
Dingell	Lewis (GA)	Rush

Ryan (OH)	Slaughter
Sabo	Smith (WA)
Salazar	Snyder
Sanchez, Linda	Solis
T.	Spratt
Sanchez, Loretta	Stark
Sanders	Stupak
Schakowsky	Tanner
Schiff	Tauscher
Schwartz (PA)	Taylor (MS)
Scott (GA)	Thompson (CA)
Scott (VA)	Thompson (MS)
Serrano	Tierney
Sherman	Towns
Simmons	Udall (CO)
Skelton	Udall (NM)

NOES—212

Aderholt	Goodlatte	Osborne
Akin	Granger	Otter
Alexander	Graves	Oxley
Bachus	Green (WI)	Paul
Barrett (SC)	Gutknecht	Pearce
Bartlett (MD)	Harris	Pence
Barton (TX)	Hart	Peterson (PA)
Bass	Hastings (WA)	Petri
Beauprez	Hayes	Pickering
Biggert	Hayworth	Pitts
Bilirakis	Hefley	Pombo
Bishop (UT)	Hensarling	Porter
Blackburn	Herger	Price (GA)
Blunt	Hobson	Pryce (OH)
Boehlert	Hoekstra	Putnam
Boehner	Hostettler	Radanovich
Bonilla	Hulshof	Ramstad
Bonner	Hunter	Regula
Bono	Hyde	Rehberg
Boozman	Inglis (SC)	Reichert
Bradley (NH)	Issa	Renzi
Brown (SC)	Istook	Reynolds
Brown-Waite,	Jenkins	Rogers (AL)
Ginny	Johnson (CT)	Rogers (KY)
Burton (IN)	Johnson (IL)	Rogers (MI)
Buyer	Johnson, Sam	Rohrabacher
Calvert	Keller	Ros-Lehtinen
Camp (MI)	Kelly	Royce
Campbell (CA)	Kennedy (MN)	Ryan (WI)
Cannon	King (IA)	Ryun (KS)
Cantor	King (NY)	Saxton
Capito	Kingston	Schmidt
Carter	Kirk	Schwarz (MI)
Castle	Kline	Sensenbrenner
Chabot	Knollenberg	Shadegg
Chocola	Kolbe	Shaw
Coble	Kuhl (NY)	Shays
Cole (OK)	LaHood	Sherwood
Conaway	Latham	Shimkus
Crenshaw	LaTourrette	Shuster
Cubin	Leach	Simpson
Culberson	Lewis (CA)	Smith (NJ)
Davis, Jo Ann	Lewis (KY)	Smith (TX)
Davis, Tom	Linder	Sodrel
Deal (GA)	LoBiondo	Souder
DeLay	Lucas	Stearns
Dent	Lungren, Daniel	Sullivan
Diaz-Balart, L.	E.	Tancredo
Diaz-Balart, M.	Mack	Taylor (NC)
Doolittle	Manzullo	Terry
Drake	Marchant	Thomas
Dreier	McCaul (TX)	Thornberry
Ehlers	McCotter	Tiahrt
Emerson	McCrery	Tiberi
English (PA)	McHenry	Turner
Everett	McHugh	Upton
Feeney	McKeon	Walden (OR)
Ferguson	McMorris	Walsh
Flake	Mica	Wamp
Foley	Miller (FL)	Weldon (FL)
Forbes	Miller (MI)	Weldon (PA)
Fortenberry	Miller, Gary	Weller
Fossella	Moran (KS)	Westmoreland
Fox	Murphy	Whitfield
Frelinghuysen	Musgrave	Wicker
Galleghy	Murry	Wilson (NM)
Garrett (NJ)	Neugebauer	Wilson (SC)
Gibbons	Ney	Wolf
Gilchrest	Northup	Young (AK)
Gillmor	Norwood	Young (FL)
Gingrey	Nunes	
Goode	Nussle	

NOT VOTING—10

Boren	Evans	Strickland
Davis (CA)	Franks (AZ)	Sweeney
Davis (IL)	Hastings (FL)	
Duncan	Sessions	

□ 1200

Mr. MARCHANT changed his vote from "aye" to "no."

Messrs. JONES of North Carolina, COSTA and BOYD changed their vote from "no" to "aye."

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 53 on the Jefferson amendment, H. Amdt. 719 to H.R. 4939, to increase by \$1,900,000,000 funds for Community Development Block Grants, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. TAYLOR OF MISSISSIPPI

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. TAYLOR) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi:

Page 65, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$15,890,000)".

Page 65, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$40,000,000)".

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 250, noes 171, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 54]

AYES—250

Abercrombie	Carson	Ferguson
Ackerman	Case	Filner
Akin	Chandler	Fitzpatrick (PA)
Allen	Clay	Foley
Andrews	Cleaver	Forbes
Baca	Clyburn	Ford
Baird	Conyers	Fortenberry
Baker	Cooper	Frank (MA)
Baldwin	Costa	Gerlach
Barrow	Costello	Gonzalez
Bartlett (MD)	Cramer	Gordon
Bean	Crowley	Green, Al
Becerra	Cubin	Green, Gene
Berkley	Cuellar	Grijalva
Berman	Cummings	Gutierrez
Berry	Davis (AL)	Hayworth
Bishop (GA)	Davis (FL)	Hefley
Bishop (NY)	Davis (TN)	Herseth
Blumenauer	Davis, Jo Ann	Higgins
Bonner	Davis, Tom	Hinchey
Boswell	DeFazio	Hinojosa
Boucher	DeGette	Holden
Boustany	Delahunt	Holt
Boyd	DeLauro	Honda
Bradley (NH)	Dicks	Hookey
Brady (PA)	Dingell	Hostettler
Brown (OH)	Doggett	Hoyer
Brown, Corrine	Doyle	Hulshof
Burgess	Edwards	Hunter
Burton (IN)	Emanuel	Inslee
Butterfield	Engel	Israel
Buyer	Eshoo	Jackson (IL)
Capps	Etheridge	Jackson-Lee
Capuano	Everett	(TX)
Cardin	Farr	Jefferson
Cardoza	Fattah	Jenkins

Jindal
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy (MN)
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kind
Kline
Kucinich
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Maloney
Marchant
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKinney
McMorris
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud

NOES—171

Aderholt
Alexander
Bachus
Barrett (SC)
Barton (TX)
Bass
Beauprez
Biggart
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bono
Boozman
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Chocola
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Deal (GA)
DeLay
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Ehlers
Emerson
English (PA)

Feeney
Flake
Fossella
Foxy
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Green (WI)
Gutknecht
Hall
Harris
Hart
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hyde
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Istook
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Keller
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Latham
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder

Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz (PA)
Schwarz (MI)
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sherman
Shimkus
Simmons
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Sullivan
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (PA)
Wexler
Wicker
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn

Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherwood
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (TX)
Sodrel
Souder

Boren
Carnahan
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)

Stearns
Tancredo
Taylor (NC)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Upton
Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp

NOT VOTING—11

Duncan
Evans
Franks (AZ)
Harman

Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

There was no objection.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a joint resolution of the House of the following title:

H.J. Res. 47. Joint resolution increasing the statutory limit on the public debt.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the further consideration of H.R. 4939 and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unable to be present for rollcall votes No. 50, 51, 52, 53, and 54. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on the amendment offered by Ms. FOXX (rollcall vote No. 50), "no" on the amendment offered by Mr. MELANCON (rollcall vote No. 51), "no" on both amendments offered by Mr. JEFFERSON (rollcall votes Nos. 52 and 53) and "no" on the amendment offered by Mr. TAYLOR (rollcall vote No. 54).

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise. The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MARCHANT) having assumed the chair, Mr. CHOCOLA, Acting Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4939) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

PERMISSION TO REDUCE TIME FOR ELECTRONIC VOTING DURING FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4939, EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during further consideration of H.R. 4939, pursuant to House Resolution 725, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting on the first in any series shall be 15 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 725 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4939.

□ 1210

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4939) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, with Mr. CHOCOLA (Acting Chairman) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, the amendment offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. TAYLOR) had been disposed of and the bill had been read through page 76, line 20.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. HALL

Mr. HALL. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. HALL:

At the end of title II, insert the following:
CHAPTER 9

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

SEC. 2901. In order to provide child care subsidies to the children of parents who are working or enrolled in workforce activities, in a manner that does not put the child care needs of temporary residents ahead of families already on waiting lists for services funded by the Child Care and Development Fund, in any redistribution of unobligated Federal matching funds as authorized by section 418 of the Social Security Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall

give priority to States currently serving a significant number of children in families adversely affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the gentleman's amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A point of order is reserved.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. HALL. Mr. Chairman, this amendment to title II would direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to give priority to States affected by Hurricane Katrina when redistributing unobligated Federal matching funds.

Texas is serving 6,000 children of Katrina evacuees with child care, despite a waiting list of 34,000 Texas children for child care services.

Failure to pass this amendment will put Texas in the position where its only option for continuing to serve the children of Katrina evacuees is with funds meant for Texas children. The Katrina kids would either be cut off or be allowed to cut the line in front of Texas kids who have been waiting up to 2 years to receive child care.

This Congress authorized \$200 million in additional child care development funds for fiscal year 2006. Because these funds were made available in the middle of the fiscal year, not all States will be able to identify the necessary matching funds.

What I am asking is that any balances in the CCDF Federal matching funds be made available to the States whose child care caseloads have increased because of these hurricanes.

Members, this issue is but one example of the problematic Federal response to the hurricanes that struck the gulf coast last fall. Shortly after Hurricane Katrina struck, Texas was given a \$75 million national emergency grant to provide employment and training services to victims of that storm who had taken up residence in our State.

When Hurricane Rita hit Texas 1 month later, rather than receiving an additional NEG grant to take care of our own people, we were told to not only use that same \$75 million to serve the victims of both storms, but to provide our own citizens a more limited range of services than the Katrina evacuees.

This Congress eventually stepped in to allow parity of services, which we appreciate. Texas has enrolled more than 35,000 hurricane victims in NEG training programs and employment, but that money is projected to run out in July, and all of Texas's supplemental requests have been denied because the Department of Labor has run out of NEG funds.

The problem Texas faces goes beyond child care. Many of the Katrina evacuees who remain in Texas are poten-

tially eligible for TANF and/or food stamps, both of which have education and training components associated.

This has put a tremendous strain on our resources for both programs. Congress previously allowed Texas to tap TANF funds to provide short-term non-recurring benefits to Katrina evacuees, but Texas and other States also need to be allowed to use Federal TANF contingency funds to provide outgoing employment and training services so that we can continue to move these recipients into meaningful employment.

Mr. Chairman, we also need for unspent funds in these areas to be re-allocated to where the demand for these services is greatest. Unless Texas receives additional resources, Texas cannot continue the specialized workforce and support services to hurricane victims unless it diverts funds that were intended and balanced to serve its own citizens.

When Hurricane Katrina struck, Texans immediately stepped forward and mounted an unprecedented effort, involving both the public and private sector. Texas taxpayers have been left actually holding the bag to the tune of nearly \$2 billion. What kind of message does that send to other States who may find themselves adjacent to the natural disaster, or to the States who, God forbid, may be the victims of that disaster.

I find it hard to believe that the level of compassion extended to these victims will be the same when they know that the Federal Government's commitments are not good when they know that most of what they provide for the refugees will take away from their local resources and the services they are supposed to provide for their own people.

Mr. Chairman, I move adoption of this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. Chairman, I rise to support this amendment because it would help thousands of children in the State of Texas.

This amendment directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to give priority to states affected by Hurricane Katrina when redistributing unobligated federal matching funds from the Child Care Development Fund.

Texas is now serving 6,000 children of Katrina evacuees with childcare services. There are currently 34,000 Texas children on a wait list for child care services.

Texas will soon be in a position where our only option will be to serve the children of evacuees at the expense of children in Texas.

Congress authorized \$200 million in additional Child Care Development Funds for FY 06. However, these funds were made available in the middle of the fiscal year making it difficult for some states to determine the necessary matching funds for this program.

This amendment asks that any balances in Child Care Development Funds be made available to states where child care caseloads have increased due to the hurricanes.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

□ 1215

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I make a point of order against the amendment because it proposes to change existing law and constitutes legislation on an appropriations bill and, therefore, violates clause 2 of rule XXI.

The rule states, in pertinent part, "An amendment to a general appropriations bill shall not be in order if it changes existing law." And this amendment gives it affirmative direction, in effect.

I ask for a ruling from the Chair.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. CHOCOLA). Does any Member wish to be heard on the point of order? If not, the Chair will rule.

The Chair finds that this amendment includes language imparting direction. The amendment, therefore, constitutes legislation in violation of clause 2 of rule XXI.

The point of order is sustained, and the amendment is not in order.

AMENDMENT NO. 9 OFFERED BY MR. PAUL

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 9 offered by Mr. PAUL:

Page 76, after line 20, insert the following:

CHAPTER 9

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

SEC. 2901. (a) For recovery of the State of Texas from the consequences of Hurricane Katrina and other hurricanes of the 2005 season, \$546,100,000, to remain available until expended, to be allocated and administered by the Secretary of the Treasury and used only for the State of Texas, as follows:

(1) \$200,000,000, for housing assistance under programs of the Departments of Housing and Urban Development and Agriculture for residents of the State of Texas and for residents of other States affected by the hurricanes who are temporarily residing in Texas and for community development block grant assistance under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

(2) \$100,000,000, for costs of uncompensated health care for victims of the hurricanes and evacuees, for long-term care costs of evacuees remaining in Texas, and for mental health care costs of persons affected by the hurricanes.

(3) \$100,000,000, for reimbursement of costs associated with providing educational services to students who are in Texas as a result of Hurricane Katrina and for repairs to public and higher education facilities damaged by Hurricane Rita.

(4) \$46,000,000, for costs of repairs to bridges, roadways, ports, and channels damaged by Hurricane Rita.

(5) \$59,000,000, for the Corps of Engineers for maintenance costs relating to erosion, waterway dredging, and other related services.

(6) \$50,000,000 for costs of debris removal that are not reimbursable by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, for assistance to agricultural areas affected by Hurricane Rita (including timber- and rice-producing areas), and for costs of other unreimbursed repairs to rural and agricultural infrastructure resulting from Hurricane Rita.

(b) The amounts otherwise provided in title I for the following accounts are hereby reduced by the following amounts:

(1) "DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE—DEFENSE-WIDE", amounts under paragraph (3) for payments to reimburse certain countries for logistical, military, and other support provided or to be provided, to United States military operations, by \$900,000,000.

(2) "BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE—DEPARTMENT OF STATE—DEMOCRACY FUND", by \$10,000,000.

(3) "MILITARY ASSISTANCE—FUNDS APPROPRIATED TO THE PRESIDENT—PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS", by \$100,000,000.

(4) "RELATED AGENCY—BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS—INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING OPERATIONS", by \$7,600,000.

(5) "RELATED AGENCY—BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS—BROADCASTING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS", by \$28,500,000.

(c) The Secretary of the Treasury shall consider the \$500,000,000 by which the aggregate amount of reductions under subsection (b) exceed the aggregate amount made available under subsection (a) as credit against the Federal deficit for fiscal year 2006.

(d) The amount provided under subsection (a) is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 402 of H. Con. Res. 95 (109th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the gentleman's amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A point of order is reserved.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday March 15, 2006, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. PAUL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Chairman, my amendment is offered in an attempt to save some money. If my amendment were to pass, we would cut \$500 million from this appropriation. Everybody knows that this is a huge appropriations bill and that it is a supplemental. It does not fall under the category of the budget rules. It is \$92 billion. It involves the finances of our military approach to our foreign policy around the world, which is two-thirds of this funding. The other third, 19 or \$20 billion is for domestic use. It is a huge sum of money. And we are doing this at a time when we are running a deficit, our national debt at least is going up over \$600 billion a year, and we are concerned this week about raising the national debt limit to over \$9 trillion.

It is unfortunate that's the way the system works around here. It is very difficult to cut anything. My amendment is an attempt to seriously consider the problems that we have in reining in the spending and living within our means.

The major point I make here is by cutting \$1 billion from the military portion of the bill it makes the point that we spend way too much on military operations. We spend more on military operations around the world

than all the other countries of the world put together. And we do not have a lot to show for it. When you think about what has happened in Afghanistan, the problems there, what is happening in Iraq and the potential problems that are coming in Iran; yet the money is continuing to be spent in this reckless manner.

So I propose we cut a billion dollars out of that which would be easily done, because it should be cut a lot more. I would then take \$500 million of this and I would put it into some areas of the country that have been neglected from some of the hurricane damage that has existed in the south, in particular, in Texas.

So to me, this is an approach to emphasize the importance of foreign policy, that this notion that we are in the business of nation-building, and that we are the policemen of the world, and that we should reconsider that and save money. At the same time, we could reduce our deficit while actually increasing funding for some of the serious problems that we have in this country. So to me, it sounds rather logical to do this. To cut things from, say, building roads in Liberia. Yes, Liberia needs money, but what about the people that have been hit by the hurricanes? They need some money, too. And the way we do it always involves deficit financing.

My approach emphasizes the need to cut in the places less important than any other places, spend the money here at home, and end up actually cutting back on the deficit financing. Otherwise we are going to continue with this process. I see no serious attempt whatsoever, when we bring up supplemental appropriations bills like this, to rein in the spending and even to pretend that we are cutting. This whole idea of putting domestic spending together with military spending is not a ploy to maybe reduce spending. It is the ploy to make sure that people are trapped into voting for both and nobody can vote against the domestic spending, and nobody can vote against the military spending. And yet, of course, spending is excessive in both areas.

But my amendment, the way it works, emphasizes mostly cutting the militarism and the type of foreign policy that we finance around the world that has so many ramifications and unintended consequences and so much blow-back, that it literally hurts our national defense and ends up costing us so much more money.

Long term, to come up with a solution, it will not occur with tinkering with the budget. It will not happen today, nor tomorrow. The only way that we can make any sense out of our spending in this country and on this floor will be to reassess our policies. We must ask: Do we want to continue to be the policemen of the world? Do we really believe we can nation-build around the world and that we can spread democracy by force? The result is then, if we do not like the results of

the democratic elections then we say, well, it did not work. We cannot support that democratically elected leader.

So it is a change in policy, at least a reconsideration of what we think we should be doing around the world. At the same time, we have to reconsider the domestic spending.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I make a point of order against the amendment because it proposes to change existing law and constitutes legislation on an appropriations bill and, therefore, violates clause 2 of rule XXI.

The rule states in pertinent part, "An amendment to a general appropriations bill shall not be in order if it changes existing law."

The amendment includes an emergency designation and as such constitutes legislation in violation of clause 2 of rule XXI.

I ask for the Chair's ruling.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does any Member wish to be heard on the point of order? If not, the Chair is prepared to rule.

The Chair finds that this amendment includes an emergency designation. The amendment, therefore, constitutes legislation in violation of clause 2 of rule XXI.

The point of order is sustained, and the amendment is not in order.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. SABO

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. SABO:

Page 56, line 11, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$700,000,000)".

Page 57, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$125,000,000)".

Page 58, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$300,000,000)".

Page 58, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$100,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday March 15, 2006, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. SABO) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, we hear a lot about the importance of identifying risk as we make security investments. And who could disagree? However, the President and Congress tend to stumble in putting a coherent risk-based philosophy into our budgets and policies.

I ask the Members to consider this amendment in the context of President

Bush's national security budget priorities for the coming year. The President requests \$10.4 billion for missile defense next year, an increase of \$1.7 billion.

By comparison, the discretionary budget request for the whole Department of Homeland Security is only \$400 million above this year, almost four times as large an increase simply for missile defense versus the whole Department of Homeland Security. I have a hard time seeing how the risk of an intercontinental ballistic nuclear missile attack is greater than the risk of a nuclear weapon in a cargo container coming into our country by ship. Therefore, this emergency bill is the time to address our most critical port security gaps.

I understand the Senate Budget Committee chairman also believes that critical security gaps should be addressed in this bill. Protecting our seaports is a lot like protecting our airports. We need multiple security layers. With international traffic, the first security check should be overseas.

The container security in this initiative, by which containers judged to be high risk are opened and inspected and all container manifests are reviewed, is operating today in only 43 of the 140 foreign ports that ship directly to the U.S.

Since 2002, former Customs Commissioner Robert Bonner has been talking about the value of CSI and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has endorsed it. However, the Bush administration and the Republican Congress have been slow to fund and implement the program. This amendment would expand CSI to all overseas ports that ship directly to the U.S. and allow U.S. custom agents to review 100 percent of all container manifests.

Some may argue that we should settle for CSI in 50 foreign ports by the end of 2007. What about the other 90 foreign ports that ship directly to us? You can be sure those who want to do us harm will know which foreign ports are covered by CSI and which foreign ports are not.

The next critical step is to improve port security inside the U.S. The Coast Guard estimates that \$7 billion is needed to bring U.S. port facilities into compliance with our maritime security law and regulations.

Let me tell you where we are today. Since 9/11, Congress has provided \$910 million to harden our seaports. President Bush has never requested funding directly and specifically for this purpose.

Mr. Chairman, with this amendment, we could install radiation portal monitors at every U.S. land and seaport of entry. Today, less than half of these radiation detectors have been installed. Without this amendment, the Bush administration would have Americans wait until 2011 to complete this crucial security measure.

Customs and Border Protection also need to do a better job in targeting

cargo containers that should be opened, and in auditing trusted shippers. The General Accounting Office identified both of these issues, and this amendment would help us get these tasks done.

The third critical port security step is to ensure that the people charged to protect our ports are well trained, equipped, and prepared to respond to disaster.

The Coast Guard enforces port and vessel compliance with maritime security regulations. Last fall, the Coast Guard reported that its maritime security exercise revealed the need for a stronger chain of command, better guidance, and more training. The Coast Guard has also told us it has not completed its review of vessel security and has not reviewed all foreign ports that ship directly to us. This agency, which performed so well in response to Hurricane Katrina, can handle the tough jobs. Congress and the President should give the Coast Guard the right resources to do them.

Mr. Chairman, as the saying goes, practice makes perfect. We may need more simulation exercises for emergency responders at every level of government in order to identify the flaws in our preparedness plans.

Mr. Chairman, everyone knows that we have a dangerous gap in our emergency communications capability across the Nation. The bill provides a back-up communication package for the gulf coast, which includes trucks loaded with equipment that can be quickly moved into a disaster area and to bring up cell phones and public safety radio networks to help first responders in search and rescue efforts. We need this emergency communication equipment in other regions of the country as well. And this amendment would provide it.

Mr. Chairman, the American people expect us to do more than talk about inadequate port security and disaster preparedness. They demand that we back up our talk with action.

I urge Members to vote "yes" on this amendment.

□ 1230

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, the gentleman's amendment, well-intentioned as it is, is absolute overkill. In total, this amendment would add \$1.225 billion for a variety of programs in the Department of Homeland Security, which is nearly 5 percent of the annual appropriations. I may agree with him on some of the needs, but most of what he is asking for should be dealt with in regular order, not in an emergency supplemental bill.

I recognize the importance of many of the appropriations contained in the amendment, but we have already substantially increased funding, Mr.

Chairman, for Customs and Border Protection, Coast Guard, and FEMA over the last 3 years.

This supplemental is about the Global War on Terror and Gulf Coast recovery, not about the regular budgets of these Departments, of these agencies, which we are dealing with right now as we appropriate for 2007.

Now, in Customs and Border Protection, in this bill already we increase funding by \$17.7 million. We have aggressively supported radiation detection and cargo inspection technology, appropriating some \$700 million over the last three years. An additional \$400 million in this amendment, well-intended, is completely arbitrary and unneeded. There is no rationale for this number. The new Domestic Nuclear Detection Office is developing new technologies, even as I speak, and a framework for their deployment.

The gentleman also increases Customs and Border protection, international port security programs, the Container Security Initiative, and the Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism by \$300 million. Since 2004, these programs have received, at the hands of the Congress, over \$430 million. This has fully funded the Container Security Initiative which will expand in 58 foreign ports by the end of fiscal 2007. Through those 58 ports come 90 percent of the containers that come to this country and C-TPAT has expanded to 5,636 certified trade partners that send us container vessels every day.

Mr. Chairman, we simply cannot grow these programs any faster. Money is not the problem. An expansion of this program is more about obtaining diplomatic clearances than money. These countries simply will not take more of our personnel until we negotiate diplomatically with them.

As for the Coast Guard operating expenses, in this bill the Chairman of the full committee, Mr. LEWIS, has already included an additional \$14.3 million. The gentleman's amendment would add another \$125 million. Mr. Chairman, over the last 5 years, we have doubled funding for the Coast Guard's operating expenses, doubled, from \$2.8 billion in fiscal 2001 to \$5.5 billion in the current year, and while we have increased their responsibilities, they have funding in their base and in this supplemental for operating expenses sufficient to carry out their duties for the remainder of the year, including overhauling equipment, additional fuel, port security, inspections and the like. So the Coast Guard is taken care of. In fact, they have roughly half of their operating expenses for this fiscal year laying there waiting to be spent. So they do not need the extra funds.

Now then, on FEMA, we include in this bill already increases to FEMA of \$70 million in the supplemental emergency bill. The gentleman would increase their funding for administrative and regional operations by \$300 million, but it is unclear how that \$300 million

figure is derived. The President requested \$70 million for emergency communications, primarily for Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, although some of the funds are also targeted to Texas and Florida.

The Sabo amendment adds \$300 million for "three other locations." We do not know where those locations are or why it is an emergency that they be equipped, and there is a huge difference in the cost estimates. Seventy million will take care of the three principal States of Katrina, but he is asking \$300 million for these three other locations. Wherever they are, I do not know, and what they need the money for we still do not know.

The \$70 million that Chairman LEWIS included in the bill that is before us fully prepares the Gulf Coast for the upcoming hurricane season, putting in place the necessary communications infrastructure for warning and communicating with the public during these natural disasters. It may be appropriate to position the technology in other locations, but there is no reason to consider an expansion of this effort as part of this emergency appropriations bill. These are decisions that can and will be considered as part of the regular appropriations cycle, which we are having hearings on right now.

The gentleman seeks to add \$100 million for preparedness activities at FEMA. We also increase in preparedness this bill by \$10 million. The gentleman states we are not spending enough on simulation exercises; but in fiscal 2006, the National Exercise Program is funded at \$52 million. That supports local, State, and national exercises.

The gentleman also seeks to restart a program called Project Impact, funded in the previous administration to simulate predisaster mitigation efforts. That program has not been funded for 5 years. Nothing is known about it, we do not know that it works, and yet we are asked to plop down another big chunk of money. Who will administer it? what will it do? and so on—we do not know.

So, Mr. Chairman, it is not a matter of more money. It is a matter of spending the money that we already have stashed away in these programs wisely, based on a sound strategy and a rationale to improve our homeland security. While the gentleman's amendment is well-intended, it is overkill.

This supplemental is focused on immediate needs, not budgetary items for next year. Many of the areas being addressed in this amendment are funded in this supplemental, not just to the arbitrary levels being proposed by the gentleman's amendment. Throwing huge sums of money at these programs is not a responsible way to conduct our Nation's business.

I urge a defeat of this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE).

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, the Dubai Ports World debacle, like Hurricane Katrina, laid bare preexisting problems which some of us, especially on the Democratic side of the aisle, have been struggling for years to bring to public notice.

The ports episode starkly reveals the pitfalls of the Bush administration's peremptory decision-making style, without serious deliberation or consultation. And it lays bare the dangers of 4 years of administration laxity on port security. The Sabo amendment offers us the chance to begin to remedy that neglect.

First, it would expand overseas container inspections to all overseas ports that ship to the U.S. The Container Security Initiative, responsible for reviewing manifests and opening and inspecting high-risk containers, is currently operating in only 43 of the 140 overseas ports that ship directly to this country. This amendment would expand the program to all overseas ports shipping to the U.S.

Secondly, the amendment would increase port security inspections and surveillance by the Coast Guard and would eliminate the Coast Guard's current \$70 million energy shortfall.

Thirdly, the amendment would place radiation portal monitors at all ports of entry. Fewer than half of the ports of entry are equipped with those monitors now, and Homeland Security does not plan to have them all equipped until 2011. This amendment would allow each entry point to have a radiation portal monitor.

Fourth, it would increase our nationwide communications backup capability. The supplemental does contain backup capability for the gulf coast, but this capability should be provided in other critical locations; our amendment would add three such locations.

Finally, the amendment would strengthen our disaster preparedness mitigation response and recovery. It would increase the number of simulation exercises undertaken by vulnerable communities, and it would restore funding for FEMA's Project Impact.

This is a well-crafted, well-conceived amendment. I urge colleagues to support it.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, how much time remains on each side?

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. CHOCOLA). Both sides have 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, yesterday, we cast a symbolic vote that got all kinds of political attention from the press having to do with the Dubai controversy. That vote had absolutely no effect on anything because the Dubai deal had already been killed. So the only thing we accomplished was letting Members of Congress get a nice vote that they could take home, stick in their pocket and show their constituents and say, "Oh, what a good boy am I."

Now we have got a chance to do something real about port security and

about border security. Is there anybody in this House who thinks that our ports are really sufficiently secure so that we do not need to have more resources? Is there anybody in this House who is comfortable with the level of security on the Canadian border?

Over the past 3 years, we on this side of the aisle have tried nine times to get the majority to increase Homeland Security funding above the amount that you have had in your bills, and we have been turned down nine times.

This Congress is telling us, as this small chart shows, this Congress is telling the country we can afford to spend \$64 billion this year to provide tax cuts to people who make \$1 million or more a year. They are telling the country we can afford to spend more money on tax cuts for millionaires than we spend on the entire Homeland Security budget.

Now, does anybody really think that this country is in greater need of providing \$64 billion in tax cuts to people who make a million bucks a year? Do we really think that we need to do that more than we need to shore up port security, border security and the like? With all due respect, I do not think that is very good judgment with respect to our priorities.

The Hart-Rudman report in 2002 concluded, that "America's own ill-prepared response could hurt its people to a much greater extent than any single attack by terrorists," and Katrina revealed the truth of that statement. We witnessed the debacle in Katrina because communication systems went down, and the worst problem about Katrina is that no one could talk to anybody because all of the communication systems were put out of order.

Now, this supplemental only contains sufficient funds to provide an emergency communications backup capability in the gulf coast. That capability consists of trucks loaded with equipment that can be quickly moved into devastated areas to bring up cell phones and VHF, UHF and SHF radio networks to help first responders in their search-and-rescue efforts.

This capability ought to be provided nationwide. That is just one of the many examples that anybody who knows anything about homeland security understands. It is a serious challenge to the security of this country.

So I would submit that we can argue about the details, and if the majority does not like some of these items, you can easily fix them in conference because you have got the votes and we do not, but anybody who thinks it is more important to provide \$64 billion in tax cuts to people who make a million bucks a year than it is to increase our homeland security capability, in my mind, has a faulty set of judgments, and I think they better think again.

□ 1245

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Very briefly, Mr. ROGERS is the chairman of the Homeland Security

Subcommittee, and is doing a very fine job attempting to reorganize the direction of the country in regards to homeland security. In the processing of reorganizing, we brought 22 agencies together. When you bring bureaucracies together you have difficulty starting a direction that is right the first time. Mr. ROGERS has recognized that.

There is a lot of money that has already been appropriated that is in the pipeline that can be applied to many of these priority challenges. Mr. ROGERS has done a very fine job of prioritizing and pushing this agency. There is enough money in the pipeline to give the priorities the appropriate funding.

So I would argue very strongly for a "no" vote on this amendment.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. May I inquire of the time remaining?

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. CHOCOLA). Both sides have 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I understand the majority has the right to close.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is correct.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, let me just make a few comments. First, let me be clear. I have great appreciation for the work of the chairman of our committee, Mr. ROGERS, and what he has done in this subcommittee. The work of his subcommittee has significantly improved the recommendations of the President over the last several years as relates to homeland security. The bills that have passed Congress have been significantly better than what we got from the administration.

But I also agree with him that this bill today is about the war on terrorism. And one of the most important parts in dealing with the war on terrorism is dealing with port security and the security of containers coming into this country. I disagree with those who say that who owns and how terminals are operated is irrelevant to security. Who operates them and how they operate them is very relevant, as we have dealt with in this bill in committee.

However, how we provide the other security dwarfs the importance of who and how terminals are operated. How we deal with containers coming into this country, both at our ports and our other ports of entry in this country is tremendously important. We have made some progress, but anyone who suggests that we are there in terms of port security in this country today I think is badly misinformed. We have a long ways to go, and it has been over 4 years since 9/11.

We are not simply throwing money at a problem here. These are important questions, important problems that need more resources; and, frankly, in some cases, they need more vigorous action by the administration to make sure that foreign countries cooperate with us. This is an amendment that significantly improves port security and I ask for a "yes" vote.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I urge a "no" vote on this amendment. First, this amendment throws money at a problem where money is not the problem. There are literally billions of dollars that we have appropriated in the pipeline for the various grant programs in the Department of Homeland Security, including grant monies for port security. In fact, the Department, in the next couple of weeks will be releasing port security applications for various ports around the country to apply for funding. Money is in the pipeline waiting to be spent.

As I have said before, the Department will be in 58 foreign ports the end of the fiscal year 2007. Ninety percent, nine out of 10 of the containers coming into the country come through those 58 ports around the world. We are there x-raying the containers, manually searching containers, classifying and targeting containers, finding those that are susceptible to suspicion and then searching them.

It is not perfect, obviously. But money is not the problem. We simply cannot send more agents into those countries than they will take, unless we can diplomatically make arrangements. But that is a job of the State Department, not DHS.

Second, this is an emergency supplemental bill. We can deal with most of the problems that the gentleman outlines in his amendment in the regular process. And in the regular process, I will probably support a number of the proposals that he is bringing forth in this emergency bill. But this is not the time or the place.

So I would urge a "no" vote. These dollars are emergency spending. They are not offset. And the gentleman is asking us to add another \$1.225 billion of nonoffset spending. I would hope the body would recognize that, reject this amendment, and let us deal with these issues in the regular process of the 2007 bill.

I urge a "no" vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. All time has expired. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. SABO).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote, and pending that, I make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Minnesota will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

AMENDMENT NO. 12 OFFERED BY MR. NEUGEBAUER

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 12 offered by Mr. NEUGEBAUER:

At the end of title II, insert the following:

CHAPTER 9

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

ELIMINATION OF FUNDING

SEC. 2901. Each amount appropriated or otherwise made available by this title is hereby reduced to \$0.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER) and a Member opposed each will control 15 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, a couple of weeks ago, or several weeks ago, I think in February, the President of the United States sent over two supplemental bills, one for Katrina and one for our defense. Two bills. Because even the President recognized that these are two different issues, a \$68 billion defense bill; a \$20 billion Katrina bill.

Unfortunately, when this bill came to this body for consideration, it was combined, not giving Members the opportunity to determine what they think is the best policy, both from a defense standpoint and a domestic standpoint.

I am concerned about the fact that these emergency supplemental bills have really become appropriation bills, and the word "emergency," I think, has somewhat slipped from that process. We should be able to come to this floor, and my bill allows Members to be able to give a vote for Katrina or a vote for our defense in an appropriate way that they feel is good for the American taxpayer.

One of the concerns I have, Mr. Chairman, is that in this 109th Congress, if we pass this bill today, with no offsets, by the way, and a previous speaker talked about there was no offsets for that amendment, in fact, there are no offsets in this bill, in the 109th Congress we will have spent as much money on emergency supplemental spending as we have spent in the previous five Congresses.

Mr. Chairman, I would say to you that I don't think that is good for the American people. What I think we ought to do, though, is have policy that does address the merits of what our efforts are in Iraq and Afghanistan and the merits of how we are spending the American taxpayers' money on Katrina relief. In fact, we have already approved in this body \$100 billion worth of emergency spending in other relief for Katrina victims.

What is at issue here is the question of whether or not a lot of the issues that are in this supplemental should actually have been in this supplemental. But more importantly, it should not be allowed for piling on and adding things to these supplemental bills, which, in fact, become a free-for-all.

These are two different issues. How we spend the money defending the American people in our efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan as we execute the war on terrorism and how we deal with the catastrophic events that have happened in Katrina are two separate issues. And I would encourage my colleagues to give the American people the benefit of their wisdom and judgment and have a vote on each one of these issues.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the bill.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the gentleman's amendment. I understand the point he is making regarding the concept of splitting bills, however, the direct result of this amendment, if it were to pass, and I hope it doesn't, would be to strip all the money out that we need to restore military facilities and veterans facilities in that region.

In fact, this bill, title II, includes \$184 million to replace military facilities at bases in the gulf coast damaged by the hurricanes, such as a fire crash rescue station at Keesler Air Force Base. It also includes funds to replace the Veterans Hospital in New Orleans. Eliminating this title puts these facilities and our military personnel at greater risk.

For those reasons, Mr. Chairman, I strongly oppose the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman reserve his time?

Mr. WALSH. I yield back.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Chairman, may I inquire as to how much time I have remaining?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Texas has 12 minutes remaining.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING).

Mr. KING of Iowa. Thank you, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, I appreciate the privilege to address this issue.

And, Mr. Chairman, Katrina funding doesn't belong in this DOD emergency supplemental appropriations bill. We have had now 6 months to debate and discuss and deliberate on Katrina funding, and yet there is still not a plan. This Congress hasn't exerted its will on a plan in New Orleans, in particular, and yet here we have another wave of appropriations that has come in without an accounting of where the money has been spent.

If we continue to do this, Mr. Chairman, we will continue to see more money go down there without a solution in place. And I would submit, and I have been down there three times, that if our Federal agencies function at 100 percent of optimum possible production, and with their hearts and their heads all in the right place, we still don't have a solution for Katrina. There is not a plan.

There are appropriations that are in this. There is \$100 million to restore the surrounding wetlands, yet we don't know how we are going to protect New Orleans for a category 3.1 storm or anything greater than that. We appropriated money before Christmas for the Corps of Engineers to produce a study to protect New Orleans for a cat 5 hurricane, but they have 24 months to produce the results of that study, and yet we don't know what kind of protection is going to be there for the capital that would go down in that region, some of it below sea level.

If FEMA, SBA, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers all do their job at 100 percent, there is still not a solution. We need to have a plan, an ordered plan, that provides for levee construction for protection of, in particular, New Orleans, at some level; whether it is a 3, a 3.5, a 4, or something above. The people that are reconstructing their homes need to know where they can put their dollars.

But this does not do it, Mr. Chairman. This is something that injects Katrina funding into DOD supplemental appropriations emergency spending. It is not emergency spending. It needs to be dealt with under the normal process of our appropriations process.

So I would conclude and ask for a "yes" vote on the Neugebauer amendment, and thank him for bringing it to the floor.

□ 1300

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to reclaim the time held in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. BASS). Without objection, the gentleman from New York controls 14 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS), chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I know the motivation of the offerer of the amendment, and I sympathize with his general premise. However, I am obligated to speak against the amendment because the amendment would eliminate the money for FEMA. Under this proposal, FEMA would run out of money in May. The \$9.55 billion in the bill for the operations in the Gulf Coast would be eliminated. Housing assistance would stop; debris removal would stop. There would be no emergency communications in place for the upcoming hurricane season, which is only two months away. And \$13.5 million for the Inspector General would be cut, almost ensuring fraud, waste and abuse of the \$35 billion in supplemental funds we have appropriated so far for the Gulf Coast.

So I would urge a "no" vote. Although I understand the gentleman's motivation to try to separate out the disaster funding from the military funding, that would ruin the disaster

assistance for the Gulf Coast. I urge a "no" vote.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE).

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank Mr. NEUGEBAUER for, after a very short period of time in Congress, stepping forward in this case and in other cases with substantive legislation that reflects the conservative values that he came to Washington to represent, and does so with no small amount of courage and common sense.

As we look at this behemoth emergency supplemental, Mr. Chairman, I still want to express appreciation to the chairman of the Appropriations Committee and the chairmen of the appropriate subcommittees. I do believe, as is evidenced by the courtliness demonstrated on the floor today, that we are not subject in this case, or any other case, to bad people but to a bad process. As this Congress undertakes to change the way we spend the people's money, this behemoth legislation is again an argument for budget process reform.

To the Neugebauer amendment, I must begin by saying Hurricane Katrina breaks my heart. I have grieved for the families who have lost loved ones and lost their precious resources and communities in the wake of this storm. I have supported Katrina funding in the past. And in working with colleagues to offset its cost, I will support Katrina funding in the future, but I cannot support adding Katrina relief to an emergency military bill.

The American people know that Hurricane Katrina funding and military spending are apples and oranges. As the author of this amendment suggests as well, the President of the United States knows this, having sent a bill to fund Katrina to the Hill separate from a bill to fund the war on terror. Rather than this legislation being focused on a disciplined measure to fund our military priorities, it has in a sense become a fruit basket, as supplemental bills often do. Spending that, while it may be worthwhile, belongs in the regular order of the legislative process in this Congress.

We need to get back to saying that emergency spending should just fund emergencies; and military emergency spending should fund military emergencies. Let us separate support for the war on terror and our support for the families and communities affected by Katrina. Let us support the Neugebauer amendment, and let this Congress work its will independently to the war on terror and our desire to be there for the families and communities affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY).

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I fully support the Neugebauer amendment to strike the Katrina funding out of this emergency supplemental. It is not in any way, shape, or form that I am opposed to Katrina funding. Indeed, we have already appropriated on an emergency expedited manner \$62 billion for Katrina relief. I have been to the gulf coast twice. I have seen the devastation. I have actually worked in one of the clinics in Baton Rouge and treated some of these patients. My heart goes out to the victims of this devastating hurricane along the gulf coast.

But as my colleagues have just said, it makes no sense to join these two bills together. The previous \$62 billion that we have appropriated is going to Katrina without much oversight. The citizens, the constituents of the 11th Congressional District of Georgia, are sick and tired of hearing the stories of waste, fraud and abuse. They want some oversight, and this is the only way we can get it.

With all due respect to the appropriations chairman and the subcommittee chairman, this idea that if we do not do it today, right now, combined with the defense emergency appropriations, Armageddon is going to occur. It is not. We come back here the very first day we return and we deal with this bill and we have some opportunity to have some input. This is what our constituents want.

I support the Neugebauer amendment. Let us strike this funding and come back and do it right.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING).

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for his courage in offering this amendment because I know how easy it is to misrepresent what his intentions are.

I agree with the previous speakers, and I am disappointed that these two bills have not been separated out. I am here to agree and admit, as one who has actually been to the gulf coast, that perhaps more Federal funding may be needed. I have seen the human misery. I have family that was there. My in-laws were there. They were among the lucky ones; they lived through it. Their home, although significantly damaged, was not totally demolished. My heart goes out to these people.

But the answer to the human tragedy is not an unlimited check drawn upon the checkbook of the Federal taxpayer.

Many speakers act like nothing has been done already to help the gulf coast, but \$100 billion in tax incentives and in other direct relief has gone to the gulf coast. That, ladies and gentlemen, is a lot of money.

And let us also not ignore the fact that although there was a great trag-

edy that occurred on the gulf coast, there are many other tragedies that occur in this Nation every day, but CNN is not there to capture them on a day-to-day basis.

Mr. Chairman, 38,000 Americans die each year in a car crash, and we are asking their families to be taxed to send more money to the gulf coast; 1.4 million Americans are going to be diagnosed with cancer this year, and yet we want to tax them to send more money to the gulf coast.

There are almost a half a million homes that burn each year, and we want to tax those families to send more money to the gulf coast. Perhaps more money is justified, but until we see the plan, until we see more accountability where we do not have trailers rotting in the Arkansas mud and Gucci purses being bought on debit cards, until we figure out the precise Federal role versus the State role versus the local role versus the role of able-bodied individuals under the age of 65, until we come up with reforms, and most importantly, until we come up with offsets, it is time that we prioritize our spending. And maybe we shouldn't be funding the citrus canker program and Radio-Free Europe if money is needed at the gulf coast. I support this amendment and hope it passes.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, maybe I did not hear right, but I thought I heard some rather interesting things. Two speakers ago I heard the words "we need more oversight." Really? This from a Congress and a majority party that has provided mighty little oversight of the abuses at Abu Ghraib, mighty little oversight on the question of contractor ripoffs in Iraq?

If you want some oversight, I will be interested to see how you vote on the amendment to provide a Truman-like committee to get into the details of contractor abuse in Iraq.

I have also heard from the gentleman from Texas express his concern about cancer patients who are being asked to pay taxes to support additional aid to the gulf. I will be interested to see whether the gentleman votes for a budget which for the third year in a row will cut the number of research grants at the National Institutes of Health.

The gentleman mentioned the number of people who die in fires. I will be interested to see whether they vote for the recommendation to eliminate fire grants. I could go on and on, but I won't in the interest of time.

So I was heartened to hear those comments by both gentlemen. I just hope that when the bills come that provide the services for the activities that they mentioned, that they will have the same attitude that they are exhibiting here today.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

There has been a lot of discussion about what this bill does and what it

does not do. What it does do is not take away Katrina funding; but what it says is let us break this bill into two pieces the way that the President of the United States sent this bill over to us, giving an opportunity for Members to express their opinions about our current defense policy, giving Members of Congress the ability to talk about and express their opinions about how they feel about Katrina policy and how it is going today.

One of the things that this amendment does, Members would be able to come back for debate on Katrina and have a separate vote at that particular time.

What we need to understand is this is no small sum of money. This is \$92 billion as of the last count; and with the amendments, it is probably going to be more. We also know that \$92 billion is in excess of 10 percent of our discretionary spending for 2006.

So it makes good sense for the American soldiers, the young men and women that are defending our Nation, that are executing the war on terrorism to have a separate vote. It makes good sense for the people in the devastated areas because of the hurricanes that we have had, for us to have deliberative talks and discussions about what is good policy for Katrina.

But let's don't leave the third set of people out that this body is charged to represent, and that is the American people. We need to make sure when we are making policy in this building and in this Chamber that it is good for the people in America. The American people are looking to us; and quite honestly, the people back in the 19th Congressional District of Texas are concerned about our spending. They question how much is an emergency and what is an emergency.

Quite honestly, Mr. Chairman, I think that combining these bills today is not good policy, and I urge my colleagues to come down and give a positive vote, vote for this amendment, vote for our soldiers, vote for the people in Katrina, but also vote for the American people.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Chairman, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS), chairman of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I believe my colleagues know that the Appropriations Committee gives the highest priority to improving and extending oversight to money that is expended.

□ 1315

Indeed, I have personally spent a lot of time working with the Inspector General. We have added money in this bill to the Inspector General specifically to make sure oversight is increased and is very adequate. I am concerned, for example, about the money

that may be available even to east Texas as a result of this work. I intend to make sure that we do what is right in connection with our response to this issue. I would urge a "no" vote and appreciate my colleagues supporting that "no" vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. BASS). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. MILLENDER-MCDONALD

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD:

Page 59, line 1, insert "(increased by \$50,000,000)" after the dollar figure.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today to ask my colleagues to support the amendment that I have offered to H.R. 4939, which is the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror and Hurricane Recovery.

Mr. Chairman, I have a bill that is going through the normal process that will ask for \$50 million through EAC. But this is an emergency bill and it is an emergency with those who are down in those gulf coast States who are looking for some relief in their elections that are upcoming.

My amendment is a simple one. It merely gives an additional \$50 million to FEMA so that they can repair and replace the election infrastructure in the States affected by Hurricanes Rita and Katrina.

On August 29, 2005, the Nation and the world watched in horror as the Gulf States were hit by one of the worst hurricanes in this Nation's history. Hurricane Katrina destroyed life in the Gulf States as we know it. And to our dismay, a few weeks later, Hurricane Rita cut a path of devastation along the Texas-Louisiana coast.

The residents of the Gulf States have witnessed entire towns and cities destroyed in the face of Hurricane Katrina and Rita. In some locations these hurricanes wiped out the entire

infrastructure necessary for citizens to educate their children, shop for necessities, and to exercise their right to vote. This is what this emergency bill is all about, allowing the election infrastructure to be placed there to give people the right to vote, because it may be years, Mr. Chairman, before the Gulf States start to resemble the vibrant region of the country which they were known to have before these storms.

And it takes time, Mr. Chairman, to build schools and shopping centers; but when it comes to voting, time is of the essence. The most affected State, Louisiana, will be holding elections in just weeks, along with Mississippi and Alabama, which have scheduled primaries in June.

Mr. Chairman, I have a letter from the Secretaries of State of those States urging us to pass this emergency \$50 million and to ask FEMA to provide this. FEMA has denied them before to get this election infrastructure put in place. This bill will do just that.

My bill will add an additional \$50 million to FEMA under the Stafford Act. It is my intent that FEMA directs these funds to the States affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to rebuild the necessary infrastructure to conduct Federal elections. As the ranking member on the Committee on House Administration, I have that oversight, and I am urging this amendment to be passed.

Voter registration lists need to be re-established, sometimes even recreated from scratch; and destroyed polling stations must be reconstructed and made fully accessible to those with disabilities. With this additional money, FEMA will not have to take money away from rebuilding schools and bridges and hospitals and other important reconstruction projects in order to get the election process back up and running in the gulf coast States in time for Federal elections in the coming weeks. And this is not a blank check, Mr. Chairman. The States would have to submit proposals with detailed plans before receiving funds.

Mr. Chairman, I am urging that we do this in light of the fact that FEMA has not, and denied these Secretaries of State the due process of getting these election infrastructures put in place. Hurricanes Katrina and Rita nearly destroyed those Gulf States. Months later, the rippling effect is still being felt by the Nation.

This Nation must provide disaster relief funds to supplement State and local efforts with their efforts to restore and replace supplies, material and equipment so that election officials can conduct credible elections.

We talk about democracy in Iraq and Afghanistan. We need our democracy right here for those who wish to vote and want to vote in the upcoming elections to do that. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF SECRETARIES OF STATE,
Washington, DC, February 6, 2006.

Hon. SUSAN M. COLLINS, Chair

Hon. JOSEPH I. LIEBERMAN,

Ranking Member, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Hon. PETER KING, Chair

Hon. BENNIE G. THOMPSON,

Ranking Member, Committee on Homeland Security, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Hon. TRENT LOTT, Chair

Hon. CHRISTOPHER J. DODD,

Ranking Member, Committee on Rules and Administration, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Hon. VERNON EHLERS, Chair

Hon. JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD,

Ranking Member, Committee on House Administration, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN COLLINS, RANKING MEMBER LIEBERMAN, CHAIRMAN KING, RANKING MEMBER THOMPSON, CHAIRMAN LOTT, RANKING MEMBER DODD, CHAIRMAN EHLERS AND RANKING MEMBER MILLENDER-MCDONALD: On August 29, 2005 Americans in the Gulf Coast suffered the most devastating natural disaster in our nation's history. Since that time, officials at all levels of government have been devoted to helping our citizens rebuild and move forward. As Alabamans, Louisianians and Mississippians, we are grateful for the hope, service and resources that have poured into our region and we are heartened by the hospitality of Americans in the great cities across the country who have welcomed our fellow citizens in this time of unprecedented need. We write your committees to request necessary assistance in securing the rights of our region's voters. Because a transparent and accountable democratic infrastructure is the backbone of any rebuilding effort, we are asking for your assistance in securing \$10 million to ensure meaningful elections.

As we move in our common struggle to keep the Gulf Coast vibrant in the wake of disaster, we must provide our citizens with the opportunity to participate in the critical and difficult decision making that each of our states face in the coming months and years.

We are honored to serve as Secretaries of State and Chief Election Officials and humbled by our solemn duty to safeguard our citizens' most fundamental right as Americans—the right to vote. The mandates of our office require that we provide all eligible voters, both those that have returned to their homes already and those that are temporarily residing elsewhere, with an opportunity to participate in this rebuilding effort by exercising their voice through the ballot box.

Each election presents our states with many challenges, but never before has there been such great potential for disenfranchisement than in the elections we are facing in the coming year. In Louisiana alone over 400,000 of our registered voters are dispersed in 49 states across the country. Over 53,000 of those citizens have been welcomed into Alabama and Mississippi. Over 250 polling places in our coastal parishes have been destroyed. To date, Louisiana has expended over \$2.5 million in restoration of voting machines and associated equipment alone.

In Mississippi, Katrina's damage was devastating. Though fewer citizens were permanently displaced than in Louisiana, our infrastructure in many communities was completely destroyed or severely damaged, due to storm surge along the coast and hurricane force winds that reached as far as 125 miles inland.

The result of this devastation is that limited county budgets are depleted to deal with

debris removal and infrastructure rebuilding, and much of our counties' tax base is destroyed. Much of these diverted county funds would have been used to bring voting precincts up to ADA standards and to purchase new voting machines to meet HAVA requirements this year. Based on surveys from our 43 affected counties, Mississippi's estimated reimbursement need is \$4.2 million dollars for ADA voting precinct compliance and voting machine purchase.

Alabama's Gulf Coast area, and 22 counties which were declared disaster areas following Hurricane Katrina, have a variety of needs to conduct their first election on June 6, 2006. In addition to necessary repairs to make some polling places functional, many counties in this disaster area have used dollars normally allocated for election costs to remove debris, repair infrastructure, etc., and these funds would have been used to upgrade polling place facilities, comply with ADA, provide training, purchase supplies, train polling officials, etc. Alabama's estimated cost for the above needs is 2.3 million.

As Chief Election Officials, we are committed to overcoming these challenges, but to guarantee that each of our citizens has an equal opportunity to participate in the election, we need additional resources that will allow us to be creative in educating our voters, providing opportunities for them to cast meaningful ballots from across the country and rebuild our democratic infrastructure.

Unfortunately, our requests to the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") have been answered by a denial that FEMA has authorization under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to aid us in administering elections. The Stafford Act, however, clearly provides the statutory authority to FEMA to help with necessary election expenses incurred in the wake of a national disaster. 42 U.S.C. §5170a. In fact, when Americans have suffered the results of disasters in the past, FEMA has provided aid and financial support for extraordinary expenses to election officials. For example, in 1992, in the wake of Hurricane Andrew, FEMA provided substantial aid to Miami-Dade County to overcome the obstacles of losing more than 100 polling places. FEMA also provided reimbursement for all of that county's election expenses incurred as a result of Andrew.

We seek assistance from the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee and the House Homeland Security Committee to help secure necessary funding and assistance from FEMA.

Each of our offices is currently engaged in determining the financial impact of the hurricanes on our respective election system. It is our feeling that we will need \$10 million this year in order to adequately address our voters' additional needs as a result of the storms. In order to most effectively administer election related funding, we encourage a formal liaison between FEMA and the United States Election Assistance Commission (EAC). This relationship will allow essential funds to be directed to the states by the federal agency responsible for issues related to election administration. Consequently, we call on the Senate Rules Committee and the Committee on House Administration to work with the EAC to determine the structure of this necessary relationship. It is our hope that, as a result of this relationship, we will have a procedure for obtaining needed financial resources through a responsive partner.

Time, of course, is of the essence. Voters in Orleans Parish Louisiana will cast ballots on April 22 to elect leaders whose vision will determine the future of New Orleans and its historic neighbors. Starting in the spring and running through the summer, all of our

states have primary elections for local and federal offices. Of course, this coming fall, each of our states must administer major federal elections. It is essential to a successful rebuilding process that our citizens have confidence in the outcomes of these elections. Our commitment to this goal is undermined only by our lack of resources.

Sincerely,

AL ATER,
*Secretary of State,
State of Louisiana.*
ERIC CLARK,
*Secretary of State,
State of Mississippi.*
NANCY WORLEY,
*Secretary of State,
State of Alabama.*

NASS RESOLUTION ON FEMA FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AFTER A DISASTER

Whereas, In September 2005 the gulf south region of America suffered devastating losses as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and

Whereas, other geographic areas have in the past and will suffer in the future from devastating disasters whether by act of god or man, that will debilitate the election process, and

Whereas, the Secretaries of State and other local election officials in the affected areas will bear substantial additional costs to restore polling places, voting equipment, and other necessary items which will enable them to resume conducting elections, and

Whereas, we, the members of the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) and the chief state election officials in 39 states, agree that accurate, accessible, and accountable elections are the centerpieces of our democracy, and

Whereas, the state and local governments in the affected areas have and will suffer tremendous losses of revenue and have to shoulder additional expenses in the clean up and rehabilitation of their respected areas, and

Whereas, the Federal Emergency Management Agency reports that they have no statutory authority to pay for any of these extraordinary expenses, and

Whereas, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has provided assistance and financial aid for extraordinary expenses to state and local election officials for conducting elections during past disasters.

Therefore be it Resolved, That NASS hereby urges and requests the President and Congress of the United States of America to direct the Federal Emergency Management Agency to deem these extraordinary expenditures as eligible for payment under the Stafford Act and to work with other federal agencies to expediently take appropriate steps to assist those Secretaries of State and local election officials in the affected areas.

Adopted the 5th day of February, 2006

In Washington, DC

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Kentucky is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment is just not necessary. FEMA has money and the authorization to go ahead and buy election equipment already, and they are already doing it. This amendment would actually earmark Disaster Relief Funds, which we have never

done before. We don't earmark. This is not an account out of which you earmark monies for things you like. These are Disaster Relief Funds that are administered by the government where it is needed.

Now, the Stafford Act authorizes the use of Federal money to repair or replace damaged public infrastructure. That is what it is for, including election equipment. FEMA has already spent over \$1.7 million on election equipment in Louisiana and Mississippi. Specifically, Louisiana has received \$1,200,100 from FEMA to replace polling booths, computers, voting machines, office supplies, and storage facilities. Mississippi has received \$724,000 from FEMA for voting machines, equipment, and election commission furniture. So FEMA is already doing it. I don't know why we need to earmark monies, which I oppose in general; but it is unnecessary here because it is already being done.

There is plenty of money in FEMA's account to replace the election equipment. They are already doing it. So I don't see the need for us to pass this sort of an amendment and set a precedent, Mr. Chairman, for earmarking out of the Disaster Relief Fund for somebody's whim on the floor. We have passed the Stafford Act. That is what governs how FEMA monies are being spent. This would be a violation, in my judgment, of the principle of the Stafford Act.

FEMA is in the process of helping remove debris from the Gulf Coast. Roads are still closed in the area. As has been described innumerable times, it is an absolute mess down there. And while election equipment is important, it is just simply, in my judgment, premature to purchase this equipment, first of all, when there are no structures in place to house the equipment and no roads open to deliver it. When the time is right, FEMA has both the authority and the money to assist with the upcoming election and the equipment requirements. There is simply no need for this amendment and no need to earmark out of disaster funds.

Including the funds in this bill, we will have given \$44.5 billion to the Disaster Relief Fund in supplemental appropriations during 2005 and 2006. That is a huge sum. But it reflects the commitment of this body to helping rebuild the devastated Gulf Coast region.

Now is the time for sound management of this money. Arbitrarily carving out specific amounts from the disaster fund would open a floodgate seemingly without end for many, many needs.

We recognize and support the need to repair election facilities. It is critical that we allow those affected by Hurricane Katrina to participate in the most important civic duty, and that is voting. With this bill, the disaster relief monies involved in the bill are in place to do just that and are being spent for that purpose already. So I would urge a rejection of this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair regrettably informs the gentlewoman from California that her time has expired.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word, and I yield to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Chairman, as much as I hate to disagree with the gentleman from Kentucky, this is not an earmark, nor has FEMA submitted the requisite amount of money that is required for the election infrastructure. They have approved \$1 million, but they have given no money; and, in fact, the Secretaries of State have indicated that FEMA has refused and denied them any money at all. So what I am simply asking is that given that this is an emergency to take care of the hurricanes, that we provide the funding for that infrastructure to be placed.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I urge a "no" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. JINDAL

Mr. JINDAL. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. JINDAL:

Page 59, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(reduced by \$2,000,000)".

Page 49, line 16, after the dollar amount insert the following: "(increased by \$2,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JINDAL) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana.

Mr. JINDAL. Mr. Chairman, in the days and weeks after first Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita, it became very clear that the lack of communications was one of the biggest obstacles to a rapid recovery and a rapid rescue effort in the face of these awful disasters.

The purpose of the amendment that I offer today is to use \$2 million for the Department of Defense's Technical Support Working Group to deploy in hurricane-affected States existing technology that provides wireless, interoperable, mobile, encrypted broadband communications for first re-

sponders, National Guard, Federal response personnel in the case of future disasters or in the case of the temporary absence of communications.

FEMA has already been tasked with identifying and providing existing commercially available capabilities in time to provide responders with this capability before the next hurricane season begins. The capability exists and needs to be rapidly deployed.

The purpose for my amendment is to use \$2 million for the working group to deploy in these areas existing technology.

Federal, State, and local law enforcement and first responder agencies were limited in their ability to respond to Hurricane Katrina because they couldn't communicate. The House Select Committee on Katrina identified this as a key failure at all levels. The Select Committee's recommendation states in part that the Department of Homeland Security should establish and maintain a deployable communications capability to quickly gain and retain situational awareness when responding to catastrophic incidents.

My amendment takes a step in the right direction and, importantly, does so before the next hurricane season, which starts June 1. We must provide responders with the capability to talk across agencies, within their agency when customary communications systems like phones are disrupted or destroyed.

This is not, obviously, a cure-all approach to solve our Nation's interoperable problems; but it is one solution that provides a stopgap system that allows responders to talk to each other using their existing hardware from mobile or fixed locations when existing systems aren't available.

FEMA has already been tasked with this responsibility before the next hurricane season. The capability exists and needs to be rapidly deployed.

This amendment does not require additional Federal dollars. It simply provides \$2 million and directs the Department of Defense and its technical support working group to work with FEMA using funds Congress has already planned to provide FEMA to identify and deploy the capability.

From a personal perspective, I can state, being on the ground in the days and weeks after Katrina and Rita, this was one of the biggest gaps in our Federal, State and local response, the inability to have interoperable communications.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. JINDAL. I yield to the gentleman from Florida.

□ 1330

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, it is obvious that he has put a lot of time and effort into this amendment. The committee has reviewed the amendment thoroughly, and we will accept the amendment.

Mr. JINDAL. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. BASS). Does anybody seek time in opposition to the amendment?

If not, the question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JINDAL).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. JINDAL

Mr. JINDAL. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. JINDAL:

Page 59, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(reduced by \$50,000,000)".

Page 68, line 16, after the dollar amount insert the following: "(increased by \$50,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JINDAL) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana.

Mr. JINDAL. Mr. Chairman, I intend to offer and withdraw this amendment.

The purpose of my amendment is to restore the administration's request to rebuild New Orleans' VA Medical Center. I do intend to withdraw this amendment pursuant to a colloquy with my colleagues. I want to, first of all, state the rationale for my amendment in the first place.

The VA Medical Center suffered significant damage after the hurricane. It is a 354-bed acute care facility. It provides health care to more than 220,000 veterans who live in a 23-parish region served by this medical center. It is absolutely critical to get this hospital rebuilt as quickly as possible to continue serving these thousands of veterans, our men and women who have served us so proudly in uniform.

Ironically, it was not the hurricane that did the majority of damage to the VA center. Instead, the facility actually initially weathered the hurricane with minimal damage. However, the breach of the levees days later flooded the entire area around the medical center. Let me correct myself, I am sorry, Mr. Chairman.

It was the breach of the levees, not days later, it was the breach of the levees caused by the failure of design and construction. It was the breach of the levees that flooded the entire area around the medical center, the facility's first floor basement and sub-basement. Those floors housed the facility's major electrical, mechanical and dietetics equipment. Of the 1,819 VA employees in New Orleans, 40 percent lost their homes.

Despite this destruction, despite the obstacles, the VA was one of the few bright lights to shine through the devastation that hit the region. Advanced planning, a well-known electronic medical system helped to ensure that VA could coordinate and move thousands of staff and patients to facilities across the United States without a single loss

of life attributed to the lack of medical attention.

In addition, VA staff members volunteered thousands of hours of their time to assist veterans and other citizens in the affected communities to ensure that the aftermath of this storm and the response could go as smoothly as possible.

Right now, the current situation is that thousands of veterans are being forced to drive a long distance or do without the health care they need. The President initially requested over \$600 million to rebuild the medical center in addition to the previous \$75 million that was included in the December supplemental for planning and land acquisition.

This is an important facility for the VA. I also want to commend the VA for working together with LSU, which operates the city's Charity Hospital. They have announced an intent to try to work together to construct a shared facility, so the new hospital would have the economies of scale, for example, sharing potentially laundries and other facilities with the State hospital that will also need to be rehabilitated, maybe even rebuilt before it reopens. It is crucial to restore this funding; it is crucial that we get this hospital open as quickly as possible.

I do intend to yield to one of my colleagues. It is my understanding in working with the committee, that they will work with me to ensure that the VA does have the funds they need to reopen this facility in its entirety. I think there was some discussion about the adequacy of the funds, and there was some analysis of how much funds would actually be needed to reopen this facility.

I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the gentleman's concern for the construction of the new veterans hospital in New Orleans. I would like to state, also, that I congratulate him and thank him for the leadership that he has provided to the great city and the great people of New Orleans. He has been a consistent and strong supporter.

We will continue to work on this issue, and I will work with the gentleman and all other interested parties to ensure that all necessary funding is available to complete the hospital on schedule.

Mr. JINDAL. I want to thank my colleague and thank the committee. With this agreement, I am willing to withdraw this amendment.

My understanding was there was some confusion in the initial estimates about the actual cost of constructing a parking garage that might have caused an inflated estimate.

I do thank my colleagues for being willing to work with me to make sure this facility is reconstructed as quickly as possible so the veterans can get the health care they deserve. I thank my colleagues. I thank the Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. JINDAL

Mr. JINDAL. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. JINDAL:

Under the heading "DISASTER RELIEF" in chapter 4 of title II, insert after the dollar amount on page 59, line 1, the following: "(reduced by \$142,271,000)".

Under the heading "MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD" in chapter 6 of title II, insert after the dollar amount on page 66, line 12, the following: "(increased by \$142,271,000)".

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JINDAL) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana.

Mr. JINDAL. Mr. Chairman, I again intend to offer and then withdraw this amendment pursuant to a colloquy with my colleagues.

The purpose of this amendment, but before I do that, I want to explain the rationale and importance of this amendment. I have offered an amendment to provide funding requested in the amount of \$142 million to allow the reconstruction of the National Guard facilities in New Orleans, Louisiana. Replacement of these facilities are absolutely critical for the function of the Louisiana Army National Guard.

Hurricane Katrina severely damaged these facilities, so that they must be replaced. These units are now currently in temporary interim facilities and have less than half the required training area and storage facilities. These makeshift facilities are overcrowded and disjointed in terms of the capacities they offer. Proper facilities need to be constructed immediately to prevent further deterioration of the equipment.

On August 29, 2005, the Jackson Barracks, in particular, suffered massive flooding from Hurricane Katrina. Several weeks later, after the floodwaters had subsided from the hurricane, the readiness centers were again flooded from Hurricane Rita. Together these two hurricanes caused extreme catastrophic damage to the readiness centers that housed the Joint Force Headquarters and the 1/141 Field Artillery Battalion. Portions of each facility were completely destroyed, suffering from building collapses, collapses as a result of the storm's wind, rains and floodwaters.

The damage inflicted upon the readiness center and all other facilities on the Jackson Barracks has rendered them completely useless. The 512 soldiers of the Field Artillery Battalion and the 216 soldiers of the Joint Forces Headquarters are now operating out of small corner spaces in numerous build-

ings spread across the State of Louisiana until interim facilities can be provided for these units affected by these hurricanes.

These interim facilities should be ready for use in a few short months. However, they will be nothing close to what is authorized or required to provide for mission ready combat units of the United States Army. The Field Artillery Battalion will have less than a quarter of its authorized square feet required for unit training assemblies and a readiness center for a unit of its size. This is the space needed to provide the facilities needed for the unit to meet its wartime training requirements.

The unit will share this space with another unit as well. Not only will it have a quarter of the space, it will be sharing the space with another unit. This heavily cramped facility, though, we are grateful for this in the aftermath of the storm, will hardly satisfy the long-term mission capability for the two units.

Over time, readiness levels to meet training requirements, retention and recruiting will all suffer greatly. Moreover space required to store unit equipment is insufficient. These same issues have also plagued the Joint Force Headquarters.

The post-hurricane plan for the Joint Force Headquarters has resulted in splitting the headquarters into several locations. This strategy is important for recovery of the State. However, facilities for the operation of the headquarters are not available to consolidate the organization at each location. These long-term operations will not be acceptable as this will result in critical management issues for the Joint Headquarters mission providing command and control to the Louisiana National Guard. This will result in poor oversight provided by the headquarters which could significantly affect the readiness for the National Guard.

My amendment seeks to restore the administration's request to rebuild these facilities in New Orleans. Replacement of these facilities should be provided to sustain the readiness posture of the Louisiana Army National Guard. Hurricane Katrina has severely damaged the facilities and these facilities must be replaced, and certainly, we need to send a signal to the Guard that we want to help them increase their readiness even before next hurricane season.

Many of my colleagues have done me the honor and privilege of coming to my state on CODELs to see the damage. Many of you have landed at Jackson Barracks and been accompanied by Louisiana Army National Guard members on your tours. Many of you have seen the heroic footage of what they did in the aftermath of the storm to rescue people out of the water. Many of you are very aware of their extreme sacrifice serving us overseas in Iraq.

Mr. Chairman, I want to enter into a colloquy with my colleagues. My understanding is the committee will work

with me once information is provided from the Louisiana Army National Guard to make sure that these facilities are indeed rebuilt and repaired.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. JINDAL. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I appreciate his great concern for the National Guard facilities in the City of New Orleans and the State of Louisiana. We will continue to work on this issue as we move towards conference, and I am convinced we can resolve all the questions as we complete the work in the conference.

Mr. JINDAL. I want to thank the gentleman and my colleagues. Based on their commitment to work with me to make sure we do provide the funding to rebuild the facilities, my understanding is there are some questions that need to be answered and some additional information that needs to be obtained, but once that information is obtained, that we are confident we can do that before conference.

Based on that, I will seek unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment. Before I do that, I want to thank my colleagues on the committee for working with me on each of my three amendments.

Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw my amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. GINGREY

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. GINGREY:

Page 62, beginning on line 1, strike lines 1 through 11 (relating to National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund).

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) and a Member opposed will each control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Chairman, today I rise in an attempt to rein in what some might see as the most modest of items. Certainly the \$3 million my amendment would strike is a minute fraction of the \$19.1 billion we are going to spend in this emergency supplemental package on Katrina relief. Specifically, my amendment strikes the \$3 million for the National Historic Preservation Fund.

It is my understanding, Mr. Speaker, that the money would be used for section 106 reviews. These reviews are required to assess effects of certain undertakings on historic properties by activities of the Federal agencies like the Department of Homeland Security and FEMA.

Some may ask, why strike this particular program from the bill? The answer is not because I don't like the program or even that the money won't be needed at some point down the line. Rather, I am offering this amendment today to make the point that if we are passing an emergency supplemental, then we should only be including emergency money.

If we need to initiate a project on or near an historic property during a time of emergency, shouldn't the government bureaucracy just get out of the way and waive section 106 reviews, thus saving critical time and money for the vital life needs of those who are and have been affected by Hurricane Katrina?

Mr. Chairman, I will support the overall legislation because I understand the emergency needs of our troops. It was only days ago that I was in Iraq visiting troops and hearing of their needs to ensure continued success in this war on terror. And although I do not believe the two should be coupled together in this particular package, as I previously said, I have personally been to Louisiana twice and I know we are in an emergency situation throughout the gulf coast. They do need further relief.

My point here today is that we must focus our resources on the true needs of the region, not on a government review program that should be waived anyway. When we have successfully moved beyond this immediate situation, then we can reinstate section 106 requirements for the affected gulf coast States.

I ask my colleagues to support the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Is the gentleman from North Carolina opposed to the amendment?

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I oppose the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I oppose the amendment for three reasons. First of all, some \$9.5 billion of the \$35 billion that has been appropriated will go to food, housing and other critical needs. So we have met those criteria as much as possible.

Secondly, as the gentleman said, this is required by section 106 of the National Historical Preservation Act. We don't want to get into amending and trying to put that in the middle of this supplemental. I would suggest if the gentleman wants to take that up at a later time, we could do that.

Thirdly, it is needed because an \$18 billion tourist industry is involved here, and getting the assessment of these national historical preserved sites is going to be the first step in trying to get back that \$18 billion.

Those are three reasons I would oppose this amendment. I urge a "no" vote.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY).

The amendment was rejected.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. If there are no other amendments to title II, the Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

TITLE III—GENERAL PROVISIONS AND TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS

SEC. 3001. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 3002. Notwithstanding subsection (b) of section 102 of title I of division B of Public Law 109-148 (119 Stat. 2748), the Secretary of Agriculture may provide financial and technical assistance in carrying out such section in an amount up to 100 percent Federal share, as provided in regulations implementing the emergency watershed protection program: *Provided*, That the amount provided under this heading is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 402 of H. Con. Res. 95 (109th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006.

SEC. 3003. Funds appropriated pursuant to this Act, or made available by the transfer of funds in or pursuant to this Act, for intelligence activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 414).

(INCLUDING RESCISSION OF FUNDS)

SEC. 3004. (a) RESCISSION.—Of the unobligated balances available for "Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Automation Modernization", \$43,620,000 are rescinded.

(b) APPROPRIATION.—For an additional amount for "United States Secret Service—Salaries and Expenses" for critical investigative and protective operations, \$43,620,000: *Provided*, That none of the funds appropriated in this section or under the heading United States Secret Service "Salaries and Expenses" in any other Act may be used to support the position of the Chief Financial Officer until the Committees on Appropriations receive: (1) a comprehensive workload re-balancing report that includes funding and position requirements for current investigative and protective operations; (2) a comprehensive analysis of the methodology used to estimate current workloads and develop annual operating budgets; and (3) a budget formulation model for National Special Security Events: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated in this section may be obligated until the Committees on Appropriations receive a revised Program, Project and Activity schedule based on current investigative and protective workload requirements, including a comprehensive analysis of the methodology used to estimate those requirements.

SEC. 3005. (a) The matter under the heading "Tenant-Based Rental Assistance" in chapter 9 of title I of division B of Public Law 109-148 is amended—

(1) in the first proviso, by striking "or the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (Public Law 100-77)" and inserting "the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, section 221(d)(3), 221(d)(5), or 236 of the National Housing Act, or section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965"; and

(2) in the second proviso, by inserting "except that paragraph (7)(A) of such section shall not apply" after "1937".

(b) The provisions of this section are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 402 of H. Con. Res. 95 (109th

Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006.

SEC. 3006. Notwithstanding 49 U.S.C. 5336, any funds remaining available under Federal Transit Administration grant numbers NY-03-345-00, NY-03-0325-00, NY-03-0405, NY-90-X398-00, NY-90-X373-00, NY-90-X418-00, NY-90-X465-00 together with an amount not to exceed \$19,200,000 in urbanized area formula funds that were allocated by the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council to the New York City Department of Transportation as a designated recipient under 49 U.S.C. 5307 may be made available to the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority for eligible capital projects authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5307 and 5309.

SEC. 3007. The referenced statement of the managers under the heading "Community Development Fund" in title II of division I of Public Law 108-447 is deemed to be amended—

(1) with respect to item number 536, by striking "an economic development planning study" and inserting "the Main Street Revitalization Project"; and

(2) with respect to item number 444, by striking "City of St. Petersburg, Florida for facilities construction and renovation for the Mid-Pinellas Science Center" and inserting "St. Petersburg College, City of Seminole, Florida for the development of a Science and Nature Park at St. Petersburg College".

SEC. 3008. (a) The second paragraph under the heading "Community Development Fund" in title III of division A of Public Law 109-115 is amended by striking "statement of managers accompanying this Act" and inserting "statement of managers correction for H.R. 3058 relating to the Economic Development Initiative submitted to the House of Representatives by the Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations of the House on November 18, 2005, and printed in the House section of the Congressional Record on such date".

(b) Section 5023 of title V of division B of Public Law 109-148 is amended by striking "in title III of Public Law 109-115 (as in effect pursuant to H. Con. Res. 308, 109th Congress)" and inserting "in title III of division A of Public Law 109-115".

(c) Each amendment made by this section shall apply as if included in the amended public law on the date of its enactment.

SEC. 3009. The statement of managers correction referenced in the second paragraph under the heading "Community Development Fund" in title III of division A of Public Law 109-115 is deemed to be amended—

(1) with respect to item number 714, by striking "construction of a senior center;" and inserting "renovation and buildout of a multipurpose center;"

(2) with respect to item number 850, by striking "City of Lancaster, Pennsylvania" and inserting "in Pennsylvania"; and

(3) with respect to item number 925, by striking "Greenwood Partnership Alliance, South Carolina for the renovation of Old Federal Courthouse;" and inserting "City of Greenwood, South Carolina for the Emerald Triangle Project;"

SEC. 3010. Section 9001 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking "for a 1-time only obligation and expenditure";

(2) in subsection (a)(2)—

(A) by striking "for fiscal year 2007"; and

(B) by inserting before the period at the end the following: "to remain available until September 30, 2007"; and

(3) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

"(b) EMERGENCY DESIGNATION.—The amount provided under subsection (a)(2) is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 402 of H. Con. Res. 95

(109th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006."

□ 1345

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CONAWAY

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. BASS). The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. CONAWAY:

Page 81, beginning on line 21, strike section 3010 (relating to LIHEAP).

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Chairman, the amendment I have is pretty simple. It would strike section 3010 in its entirety. 3010 deals with the acceleration of the payments on LIHEAP from fiscal year 2007 into fiscal year 2006 by some \$750 million.

The basis of this being in there has not been laid. This is not an emergency, certainly. We have had one of the mildest winters that we have had in a long, long time. I have also got it on relatively good authority, scientific authority, that we will have a winter in 2007, that this money was originally set up to supplement LIHEAP funding in that year.

This funding came about as a result of some very difficult work that was done on the Deficit Reduction Act, and offsets were put in place to allow for this spending in 2007. All of the hard work that went into it, all of the groundwork that was laid to convince us that this was needed for 2007 would be inaccurate, I guess, if we were, in fact, to pass this amendment, because that Deficit Reduction Act was passed in early February.

So it has been a little more than a month since the work was done that this House collectively said this \$750 million should be spent in 2007 for the LIHEAP program.

I know that there will be those who say, well, LIHEAP has been authorized at much, much higher levels than we have it and than it has ever been appropriated at; but we have not seen any evidence that the appropriation levels that we have had in the past were inadequate, that there has been evidence shown that there has been needless suffering going on as a result of this funding being less than what was authorized.

I would also remind my colleagues that we have a very disjointed national policy in that we restrict drilling in areas where we know there is crude oil and natural gas, the basis for most of the energy costs that we are talking about helping low-income with, we restrict that drilling.

And it does not take a great economist to understand that if the supply

of a commodity is greater than the demand that the price will go down. So it seems wrong-headed on one hand to have a subsidy program for our energy costs and then at the same time restrict the drilling for that commodity to continue to drive that price up, which then means you need more subsidies to support the higher and higher prices.

So my amendment is pretty straight forward. It strikes this section in its entirety. And I would encourage my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, what is behind this amendment is very simple. The gentleman would like to hold the low-income heating assistance funding in this bill hostage to drilling in ANWR. He cannot do that under the rules of the House; and so from his standpoint, the next best thing is to eliminate low-income heating assistance in general.

I was one of the three original authors of the low-income heating assistance program, along with Silvio Conte, Republican from Massachusetts, and Ed Muskie in the Senate. And I think I know something about this program and why this amendment is destructive.

Let me explain what happened last year. The House-passed version of the budget reconciliation bill included \$1 billion for LIHEAP to be available in fiscal 2006. But just before the reconciliation conference was completed, the defense appropriations conference report was filed, and that contained an additional \$2 billion for LIHEAP as part of the sweetener for ANWR oil leasing provisions.

Not wanting to duplicate the ANWR funds, the reconciliation conferees shifted their addition to fiscal 2007. Subsequent to that, however, the entire ANWR package, including the \$2 billion appropriated for LIHEAP, was dropped out of the defense appropriations conference report.

The end result was no additional funds for LIHEAP in 2006, despite escalating heating oil and natural gas prices. The committee amendment simply tries to move the money back to where it was originally supposed to go, which was in this fiscal year. The problem, however, is that the language, even in the committee amendment, does not guarantee that that money will be spent this year; it only allows it to be.

Let me point out the gentleman says he does not think this is an emergency. The gentleman makes \$160,000 a year. So does everybody in this Chamber. It is not an emergency to us. We do not have to worry about heating our houses. But there are an awful lot of people who do. Only 16 percent of the people who are eligible by income for low-income heating assistance last year got some help.

And the fact is that the average price for home heating oil has more than

doubled since 2001 and 2002, yet LIHEAP has increased only 20 percent since that time. Average prices for natural gas are up 31 percent. Average prices for home heating oil are up 25 percent, for propane up 18 percent, just from one winter to another.

Over 3 years' time they are much, much steeper. So I would suggest that the family that was able to get through the winter without help when home heating oil was selling for \$1.16 a gallon, as it was 4 years ago, is going to have a little more trouble coping when heating oil reaches \$2.40 a gallon, the average price now.

So I would suggest that to eliminate this funding is unadvisable. I am myself unhappy with the provision in the committee bill, because unlike the original Obey amendment which was offered in committee, this does not even require the funding be provided this year; but at least it allows that funding to be spent in this year or next.

And I think that that is better than nothing. I think the gentleman's amendment, while I respect him and respect certainly his right to offer it, I think that the amendment itself is misguided and ought to be defeated.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Chairman, I certainly have a great deal of respect for my colleague on the other side of the aisle, but I think it is a bit misplaced to compare the salaries which you and I make, which I think is \$165,000 a year, to every malady known to man. Because if we are going to do that, there is not enough money in the Federal Treasury to make that happen.

So I would disagree that that is a very good analogy. We will also consider in this Chamber in a little while a suspension bill that will add a billion dollars in funding to LIHEAP. In fair disclosure, I intend to oppose that as well. But if for no other reason, in order to simplify the world and make it easier on the conferees, my amendment would strike this section out of the bill so that when we go to conference with it, the \$1 billion that will be in the suspension bill, I suspect it will get approved, and this \$750 million, there would be no confusion that this \$750 million is not tacked on top of the \$1 billion.

I think the analysis has not been made. The price has gone up less than 50 percent and this funding would increase support by well over 100 percent, from a billion to a billion. So I want to respectfully disagree with my colleague and ask my colleagues to support this amendment to strike this section from the bill.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 1 minute.

Mr. Chairman, let me simply suggest that the fact is that there are many people in this country who have to choose between heating their homes

and eating. I think we ought to make their life just a little bit easier.

I yield to the gentleman from New Hampshire.

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the gentleman yielding me time.

If the Snowe language in the bill, the other suspension bill passes this afternoon, then by all means strike this in a committee of conference. But pending that, those of us from cold-weather States and warm-weather States need this fuel assistance. I salute Mr. OBEY for working to make sure it is included, at least to the extent that it is. In the conference report, if the Snowe language passes today, then the amendment that is proposed could be stripped out in conference, and certainly I would support that.

I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, in the interests of redundancy, I would urge that we defeat the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas will be postponed.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, we have moved past the point in the bill where the Flake amendment was to be offered, which would have attempted to strike an earmark that was contained in last year's bill for which a correction is found in this year's bill.

I am pleased that amendment was not offered. But I would like to take just a moment to urge every Member of this House to think before they leap on the issue of giving the President the authority for what is, in effect, an item veto.

I find it mindboggling that there are some people in this Chamber who believe that the main institutional problem that we have in this Congress is that the President has insufficient power vis-a-vis the Congress of the United States.

We have a President who has taken us to war on the basis of manipulated and selected intelligence. We have an administration under whom persons have been tortured, and we are told that more than 100 persons in captivity have died. We have an administration that eavesdrops on American citizens without a court order.

And then we say that the problem is that the President has too little power? I would suggest quite the contrary. If any of you are interested in the line item veto, I would urge you to for a

moment forget who is in the White House now and think what might have happened under Lyndon Johnson.

This was a President of my own party, a President who lied to this Congress about the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution. Gaylord Nelson, from my home State, was one of the first three people in the Senate to vote against the first appropriation for Vietnam.

Can you imagine what Lyndon Johnson would have done to Gaylord Nelson if he had had any version of the item veto at his disposal? He would have put his arm around Gaylord. He would have said, "Gaylord, you support that war or you are not going to get your wild rivers designation. You support that war or you are not going to get this earmark for the forest service. You support that war or you are not going to get anything that you want in the budget."

□ 1400

And I can imagine, I can imagine the power that Johnson would have had using that kind of device. I would also suggest I believe that many, many reforms that are adopted in politics wind up being counterintuitive. And I would suggest, for instance, that an item veto could, in fact, significantly raise the cost of doing business in government affairs because Presidents will dangle projects in front of Members if they are "good," "good" being defined by the White House. And that could, in fact, enhance the White House's ability to pass questionable legislation by dangling goodies in front of Members and threatening to cut them if they did not.

So I think my record is clear on earmarks. This Congress provided many fewer earmarks when I was chairman of the Appropriations Committee than it has in any year since that time. But having said that, I think it is important, in whatever choices we make about earmarks, to not inadvertently in that process enhance the power of the executive branch of government so that they are even more strong than they are today, vis-a-vis the Congress of the United States.

In the last analysis, there is only one check on untrammelled executive power, and that check is the Congress of the United States. And I would urge Members of this House, regardless of party, not to weaken that check. That check is not just important to the Congress. It is important to the American people.

Not in the 36 years that I have served here, has any President ever seen any Congress change that President's spending request by more than 3 percent. And it is that 3 percent difference that makes a difference between having a President and having a king.

With all due respect, I think we ought to make certain we continue to have a democracy, not an unofficial monarchy, and I believe that an item veto would contribute to destroying that very delicate balance of power between the two branches, and give even

more power to the executive branch which in so many ways is demonstrating runaway executive power right now.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. FOLEY). The Clerk will read.

The Clerk read as follows:

SEC. 3011. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act or any other Act may be used to take any action under section 721 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. App. 2170) or any other provision of law to approve or otherwise allow the acquisition of any leases, contracts, rights, or other obligations of P&O Ports by Dubai Ports World or any other legal entity affiliated with or controlled by Dubai Ports World.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or any prior action or decision by or on behalf of the President under section 721 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. App. 2170), the acquisition of any leases, contracts, rights, or other obligations of P&O Ports by Dubai Ports World or any other legal entity affiliated with or controlled by Dubai Ports World is hereby prohibited and shall have no effect.

(c) The limitation in subsection (a) and the prohibition in subsection (b) apply with respect to the acquisition of any leases, contracts, rights, or other obligations on or after January 1, 2006.

(d) In this section:

(1) The term "P&O Ports" means P&O Ports, North America, a United States subsidiary of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, a company that is a national of the United Kingdom.

(2) The term "Dubai Ports World" means Dubai Ports World, a company that is partly owned and controlled by the Government of the United Arab Emirates.

SEC. 3012. (a) None of the funds appropriated in Public Law 109-102 or any prior Act making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing and related programs may be obligated or expended for assistance to the Palestinian Authority or a successor entity until the Secretary of State certifies to the Committees on Appropriations that such entity has demonstrated its commitment to the principles of non-violence, the recognition of Israel, and the acceptance of previous agreements and obligations, including the Roadmap.

(b) None of the funds appropriated under the heading "Economic Support Fund" in Public Law 109-102 or any prior Act making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing and related programs may be obligated or expended for assistance to the West Bank and Gaza until the Secretary of State reviews the current assistance program, consults with the Committees on Appropriations, and submits a revised plan for such assistance: *Provided*, That such plan shall be submitted not later than April 30, 2006, and shall contain specific and appropriate steps to ensure that United States assistance is not provided to or through any individual, private or government entity, or educational institution that the Secretary knows or has reason to believe advocates, plans, sponsors, engages in, or has engaged in, terrorist activity.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. KENNEDY OF MINNESOTA

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following new section:

Sec. —. None of the funds provided in this Act may be used to allow entry onto the grounds of any Department of Defense installation or cemetery or Department of Veterans Affairs cemetery for the purpose of a demonstration in connection with a funeral or memorial service or ceremony for a deceased member of the Armed Forces.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. KENNEDY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the gentleman's amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A point of order is reserved.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, let me begin by telling the Members why am I on the floor today.

Less than a month ago, the body of Corporal Andrew Kemple, who was killed while fighting for our freedom in Iraq, was laid to rest during a ceremony at the Zion Lutheran Church in Anoka, Minnesota, in my congressional district.

However, instead of the funeral Corporal Kemple deserved, one where his family and friends were able to share fond memories of their time with him and where his faithful service to this country could be honored, there was, instead, a vile and hateful display. Funeral protesters, and I use that term loosely, chanted vile slogans like "God hates America" and "God loves IEDs" during Corporal Kemple's funeral ceremony for more than an hour.

As my colleagues know too well, the improvised explosive device, or IED, has been a favored tool of the terrorists in Iraq and has been responsible for much death and injury for our troops.

Mr. Chairman, words like "reprehensible" and "disgusting" do not adequately describe these slogans or this stunt on this solemn and sacred occasion. Unfortunately, this shameful incident in my district is not an isolated one. This scene has been repeated again and again at the funerals of fallen servicemen and women across the country. We must and can stop it.

That is why I rise today to offer an amendment that will ensure that none of the funds in this supplemental can be used to approve demonstrations at Department of Defense or Department of Veteran Affairs cemeteries during a funeral or memorial service for a member of the United States Armed Forces.

My amendment would ensure that our men and women who have given what Lincoln called "the last full measure of devotion" receive the honors they are due.

My colleagues may have heard of efforts in the States to preserve the

sanctity of military funerals. As many as 17 have been reported to be working to preserve the solemnity of this occasion. This fact does not relieve Congress of its duty to take action on Federal lands.

This amendment would be a meaningful first step to preserve a measure of decency for grieving families of fallen soldiers right now while Congress considers legislation introduced by my friend Mike Rogers to address the problem long term. Our men and women in uniform are doing their duty in the war on terror and we must do ours.

Mr. Chairman, though I believe my colleagues are being denied an important opportunity on account of this procedural matter, I ask to withdraw my amendment and I urge all Members to support the forthcoming legislation that my good friend, MIKE ROGERS, is about to introduce that provides a lasting solution to this outrage.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the amendment is withdrawn.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. BERRY

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. BERRY:

At the end of the bill before the short title, insert the following:

SEC. —. **EXTENDED PERIOD OF MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT DURING ALL OF 2006 WITHOUT LATE ENROLLMENT PENALTY.**

Section 1851(e)(3)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-21(e)(3)(B)) is amended—

(1) in clause (iii), by striking "May 15, 2006" and inserting "December 31, 2006"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new sentence:

"An individual making an election during the period beginning on November 15, 2006, and ending on December 15, 2006, shall specify whether the election is to be effective with respect to 2006 or with respect to 2007 (or both)."

SEC. —. **ONE-TIME CHANGE OF PLAN ENROLLMENT FOR MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT DURING ALL OF 2006.**

(a) APPLICATION TO MA-PD PLANS.—Section 1851(e) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-21(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(B)—

(A) in the heading, by striking "FOR FIRST 6 MONTHS";

(B) in clause (i)—

(i) by striking "the first 6 months of 2006" and inserting "2006"; and

(ii) by striking "the first 6 months during 2006" and inserting "2006";

(C) in clause (ii), by inserting "(other than during 2006)" after "paragraph (3)"; and

(D) in clause (iii), by striking "2006" and inserting "2007"; and

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking "2006" and inserting "2007" each place it appears.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO PART D.—Section 1860D-1(b)(1)(B)(iii) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-101(b)(1)(B)(iii)) is amended by striking "subparagraphs (B) and (C) of paragraph (2)" and inserting "paragraph (2)(C)".

SEC. —. **ESTABLISHMENT OF MEDICARE OPERATED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN OPTION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart 2 of part D of the Social Security Act is amended by inserting

after section 1860D-11 (42 U.S.C. 1395w-111) the following new section:

"MEDICARE OPERATED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN OPTION"

"SEC. 1860D-11A. (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, for each year (beginning with 2007), in addition to any plans offered under section 1860D-11, the Secretary shall offer one or more medicare operated prescription drug plans (as defined in subsection (c)) with a service area that consists of the entire United States and shall enter into negotiations with pharmaceutical manufacturers to reduce the purchase cost of covered part D drugs for eligible part D individuals in accordance with subsection (b).

"(b) NEGOTIATIONS.—Notwithstanding section 1860D-11(i), for purposes of offering a medicare operated prescription drug plan under this section, the Secretary shall negotiate with pharmaceutical manufacturers with respect to the purchase price of covered part D drugs and shall encourage the use of more affordable therapeutic equivalents to the extent such practices do not override medical necessity as determined by the prescribing physician. To the extent practicable and consistent with the previous sentence, the Secretary shall implement strategies similar to those used by other Federal purchasers of prescription drugs, and other strategies, to reduce the purchase cost of covered part D drugs.

"(c) MEDICARE OPERATED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN DEFINED.—For purposes of this part, the term 'medicare operated prescription drug plan' means a prescription drug plan that offers qualified prescription drug coverage and access to negotiated prices described in section 1860D-2(a)(1)(A). Such a plan may offer supplemental prescription drug coverage in the same manner as other qualified prescription drug coverage offered by other prescription drug plans.

"(d) MONTHLY BENEFICIARY PREMIUM.—"

"(1) QUALIFIED PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE.—The monthly beneficiary premium for qualified prescription drug coverage and access to negotiated prices described in section 1860D-2(a)(1)(A) to be charged under a medicare operated prescription drug plan shall be uniform nationally. Such premium for months in a year shall be based on the average monthly per capita actuarial cost of offering the medicare operated prescription drug plan for the year involved, including administrative expenses.

"(2) SUPPLEMENTAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE.—Insofar as a medicare operated prescription drug plan offers supplemental prescription drug coverage, the Secretary may adjust the amount of the premium charged under paragraph (1)."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—"

(1) Section 1860D-3(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-103(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(4) AVAILABILITY OF THE MEDICARE OPERATED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN.—"

"(A) IN GENERAL.—A medicare operated prescription drug plan (as defined in section 1860D-11A(c)) shall be offered nationally in accordance with section 1860D-11A.

"(B) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS.—"

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), a medicare operated prescription drug plan shall be offered in addition to any qualifying plan or fallback prescription drug plan offered in a PDP region and shall not be considered to be such a plan purposes of meeting the requirements of this subsection.

"(ii) DESIGNATION AS A FALLBACK PLAN.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, the Secretary may designate the medicare operated prescription drug plan as the

fallback prescription drug plan for any fallback service area (as defined in section 1860D-11(g)(3)) determined to be appropriate by the Secretary."

(2) Section 1860D-13(c)(3) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-113(c)(3)) is amended—

(A) in the heading, by inserting "and medicare operated prescription drug plans" after "Fallback plans"; and

(B) by inserting "or a medicare operated prescription drug plan" after "a fallback prescription drug plan".

(3) Section 1860D-16(b)(1) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-116(b)(1)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking "and" after the semicolon at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

"(E) payments for expenses incurred with respect to the operation of medicare operated prescription drug plans under section 1860D-11A."

(4) Section 1860D-41(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-151(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(19) MEDICARE OPERATED PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN.—The term 'medicare operated prescription drug plan' has the meaning given such term in section 1860D-11A(c)."

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BERRY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the gentleman's amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman reserves a point of order.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, we have a crisis in this country and it needs to be dealt with on this bill. This amendment would provide for a real Medicare prescription drug benefit and save the Nation's taxpayers a minimum of \$40 billion a year in the process. It would provide for continuous open enrollment for all of 2006 and lay any late enrollment penalties until 2007.

Currently, if a beneficiary misses the May 15, 2006 deadline, they will not have the ability to enroll again until November 15 of 2006. This means they will automatically be subjected to a 7 percent minimum penalty for the rest of their lives. This amendment would allow beneficiaries the option of changing plans once in 2006 if they have made a poor choice, and there is no possible way that they could have known it was a poor choice when they made it.

It would create a drug plan administered and run by Medicare. It would require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate for drug prices on behalf of the American people of our seniors that are enrolled in the plan, and they are the greatest generation. They built the greatest Nation in the history of the world and they deserve better than what they are getting.

This would not do away with any of the existing plans. It would just provide a much better option. It would provide lower prices and it would pro-

vide these prices that at no cost to the government.

Our rural pharmacies are going broke because of this crazy Medicare part D bill that we have forced on our seniors and on our pharmacists. It is unfair. It is absolutely overpowering to know that our own government did this to good people. This amendment will fix that. And our seniors are still not getting the medicine that they need and deserve to stay alive, stay healthy and have a decent lifestyle.

Once again by independent sources it has been verified that this amendment, if only half the eligible people signed up, it would save the taxpayers \$40 billion. If all of them were part of this plan, it would save \$100 billion a year, and they would still get their medicine cheaper than what they are paying for it right now. It only makes sense that we do this for the greatest generation and for those wonderful seniors that thought they were going to get treated a whole lot better by their own government.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I must say that my good friend, perhaps, has a prescription for success here, but I must say I must make my point of order.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, did the gentleman rise to make his point of order?

Mr. LEWIS of California. Yes.

Mr. OBEY. Would the gentleman withhold temporarily?

Mr. LEWIS of California. I certainly will.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from California reserves his point of order.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, as the gentleman from Arkansas says, we have hundreds of thousands of seniors who are faced with absolute confusion on this prescription drug bill. What we are trying to do is help them sort through some of the ridiculous choices they are being forced to make.

What we are trying to do is to say that we will move the sign up deadline back to the end of the year to give them more time to sort out which plan best fits their needs. In my State, for instance, there are over 40 plans being offered to seniors.

Secondly, we are saying give those seniors one opportunity to change a plan after May. Right now, if they do not make a change before May, they are stuck. Give them an opportunity to change once after May if they discover they have made the wrong choices in plans.

Why are we offering this on the appropriations bill? It is very simple, because the rules were abused egregiously in order to enable the passage of this bill in the first place. The bill contained an outrageous gap in coverage now called the "doughnut hole." It also contained a provision which forbade, which forbade the government

from even negotiating with the pharmaceutical industry on price.

How did that happen? Because the majority leadership of this House held the vote open for 3 hours in order to change the verdict. The way things are supposed to work in the House, as everybody knows, is that when we vote, these machines open, our name lights up on the board, we take our voting card, we put it in, and 15 minutes later the people with the most votes are supposed to be the winners. That is not the way this bill was passed.

The way this bill was passed was that this bill was defeated at the end of 15 minutes. It was defeated at the end of a half an hour. It was defeated at the end of an hour. It was defeated after 2 hours. It was defeated after 2½ hours. But finally after 3 hours of holding the vote open the bill passed. How? Because the Republican leadership of this House broke Members' arms to vote for a bill they did not want to vote for because it contained these defects.

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That is why we are trying to use the rules that were abused in that action in order to correct the abuse and give our seniors in the process a little more time to make a crucial decision in their lives.

I would urge support for the amendment, and I would urge the gentleman not to raise a point of order against the bill.

Mr. Chairman, could I ask how much time I have remaining.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. FOLEY). The gentleman from Wisconsin has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Chairman, 3 months into the implementation of the Medicare drug benefit, one thing is perfectly clear, and that is the "D" in part D stands for disaster. Beneficiaries are being bombarded by marketers and have been victimized by fraud. Forty percent of beneficiaries have yet to choose a plan because they remain perplexed and frustrated. \$1.2 trillion seniors and people with disabilities deserve better than this.

The Berry amendment would provide beneficiaries an additional 6 months to choose a plan. This is the least that we can do for our senior citizens.

I cannot imagine that any Member has not gone home and found hundreds and thousands of seniors who cannot figure this out. Only a small fraction are computer literate, and they are trying to figure it out.

Let us give these seniors a little more time to try and figure this out. In the meantime, maybe we can fix this plan so that it can be serving them rather than the pharmaceutical companies and the insurance industry.

This is a very, very sensible amendment. I know that there are people on both sides of the aisle who are feeling the pressure just to give a bit more

time to our seniors. I hope you will all support this amendment.

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Chairman, do I have any time left?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Arkansas has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, the distinguished gentlewoman from Illinois said it just like it is. Our senior citizens deserve better. We can provide better drug coverage, better health care for our seniors in this country and save money at the same time.

It defies logic that we would not take this opportunity to see that the wonderful generation that built this great Nation, they went through the Great Depression, they fought World War II, and then in their senior years to be treated like this only because we had a Congress willing to serve the pharmaceutical industry and allow them to rob our seniors and the rest of the American people, for that matter, and the insurance industry.

This is an opportunity to right a great wrong. It is an opportunity to correct and fix the sorriest, most disgusting piece of legislation ever passed by the United States Congress; and I would ask that this at least be allowed to come to a vote.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Chairman, Medicare, like Social Security, is a solemn intergenerational promise. People pay into Medicare for a lifetime of work, and they expect quality health care when they retire or become disabled. With the passage of the Medicare Modernization Act in 2003, Medicare's ability to continue to provide quality health insurance both now and in the future has been threatened. Congress increased costs for beneficiaries, in all parts of Medicare, as it increased payouts to HMOs and drug plans.

In passing Part D, Congress chose to side with the pharmaceutical and insurance industries rather than seniors and the disabled. Those on Medicare are at the mercy of the private sector for their drugs. There are 19 companies offering over 40 different prescription drug plans in Ohio, not including those offered through Medicare Advantage HMO's. Each of these plans can choose which drugs to cover and which to exclude from their formulary. They can change their formularies at any point in time. Corporate interests are deciding which drugs you can take instead of physicians.

I wanted one prescription drug card, offered directly through Medicare, for seniors to use to cover all their drugs at pharmacies of their choosing. Congress could have passed a bill with both a real and simple benefit for Medicare beneficiaries, and for less money. Drug prices could have been negotiated and administrative costs could have been reduced through a plan directly under Medicare. In fact, the Center for Economic and Policy Research recently released a study showing that if Medicare negotiated drug prices, we would save so much money that we would be able to cover every single beneficiary with no co-payments, no deductibles, and no premiums . . . and still have \$40 billion dollars left. Now, we have a program where the coverage is too little, the

cost is too high, and complexity is preventing seniors from getting the drugs they need.

CMS SHORTFALLS

The Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) made inherently flawed legislation even worse with its failure to ensure uninterrupted drug coverage, its lack of adequate rules regarding drug plan formularies, and its distribution of both incorrect and inadequate information. Since January 1, 2006, individuals either on Medicaid or Low-Income Assistance should have paid no more than \$5 per 30-day retail or 90-day mail order prescription. For hundreds of thousands of people, some of whom contacted my office, this was not the case.

Computer systems from CMS, the state, Social Security, and private plans did not adequately merge with the computer system pharmacies use to verify enrollment and co-payment information. What does this mean? Accurate co-payment amounts were not charged, and in some cases, are still not being charged. Charges have far exceeded \$5 in many cases, sometimes by hundreds of dollars. Despite Medicare's anticipation of these scenarios, the problem was not addressed until After it hit beneficiaries.

Regarding plan formularies, CMS rules allow plans to refuse to cover many drugs in the antidepressant, antipsychotic, anticonvulsant, anticancer, immunosuppressant and HIV/AIDS formulary categories—another instance of this administration playing doctor. This time, though, it is not just the health concern of one person, but it is an issue of social concern if some of these individuals are not able to access their prescribed medications.

To make matters worse, CMS has yet to correct in writing a major error in the "2006 Medicare and You" handbooks which states that all plan premiums would be fully covered if on "Extra Help". In reality, government subsidies will only cover premium amounts up to \$30.69 for 2006. Many seniors will be surprised when their plan charges them the difference. In a response letter to me, the CMS Administrator, Dr. Mark McClellan, talks about CMS's multi-pronged approach to minimize the impact of this unfortunate error. Unfortunately, his approach consists primarily of a correction to Medicare's Web site rather than directly to seniors.

CORPORATE SHORTFALLS

Without needed information, people on Medicare cannot make a decision. Many who have other drug coverage have not received notice from their provider whether or not their plan is creditable, or at least as good as Medicare's. If they make the wrong decision, they would have lesser coverage.

Want information from the plans? Good luck! These companies have not dedicated nearly sufficient staff to handle questions and information, as you probably are aware. Most plans simply hang up on incoming calls, sometimes after waiting for hours on the phone. This is even the case for pharmacists who are spending time calling to check enrollment information with these companies.

Each company is required to follow CMS transition policies to cover any drug for 30-days, regardless if it is on their formulary or not. Most companies are not volunteering this information, and some are not abiding by it.

PHARMACY SHORTFALLS

CMS has released scenarios detailing actions pharmacies should take to make sure Medicaid and low-income assistance individuals receive their drugs at the proper copay amount. Though the directives are informative and needed, they have not been adequately disseminated. Even when they are aware of them, some pharmacies are not following these directives. As a result, many of these people are going without their drugs.

When we consider the complex, costly nature of the program, in addition to the flawed implementation of the program, the minimum we can give our seniors is an extension of the deadline to enroll without penalty. If CMS can't smooth over the problems in implementation in time, we cannot ask seniors to observe the original deadline of May 15. They should be allowed to make sure they don't have to gamble with their lives when switching to a new plan. They need to know that the program, as flawed as it is, can be implemented in a way that does not deprive them of their medicines. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Berry Amendment.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Chairman, yesterday, a woman told President Bush that she was having a hard time understanding his prescription drug program and needed more time so that she could make an informed choice for her mother.

Bush told her too bad. Specifically, he said, "Rolling back good deadlines is not going to help your mom make a good decision."

He's wrong. The implementation of this drug program has been a disaster. That's not a partisan statement, it's a factual one. Delaying the May 15th deadline until the end of 2006 should be a no-brainer.

Senior citizens and people with disabilities shouldn't be forced to pay financial penalties for the rest of their lives because the law was poorly implemented. Nor should we allow the confusion of the last few months to turn beneficiaries off from ever entering the program.

Yet, if the deadline goes into effect, that's exactly what will happen. According to the Congressional Budget Office 10 million seniors will pay higher premiums for their prescription drugs for the rest of their lives if this deadline is not delayed. And more than 1 million seniors will choose not to enroll this year.

Mr. Bush has long claimed to be a compassionate conservative. There is nothing compassionate about telling America's seniors too bad and forcing them to pay higher premiums for the rest of their lives.

My Republican colleagues keep complaining that Democrats are demagoguing the drug bill. We are not. We are here today trying to help them make it work better. I urge them to join us in that effort.

America's seniors need and deserve a Medicare drug benefit that is user-friendly, affordable, and stable. Vote for the Berry Amendment to do just that.

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

POINT OF ORDER

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does the gentleman from California insist on his point of order?

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I do.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman will state it.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I make a point of order against

the amendment because it proposes to change existing law and constitutes legislation on an appropriations bill and, therefore, violates clause 2 of rule XXI.

The rule states in pertinent part: any amendment in a general appropriations bill shall not be in order if changing existing law. This amendment directly amends existing law.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does anybody wish to be heard on the point of order?

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I do.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Wisconsin is recognized.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, it is ironic that the same rules that were abused in order to pass this legislation in the first place are now being hidden behind the majority in order to prevent us from correcting the flaws in that legislation. We could correct those flaws if the majority refrained from offering their point of order. Unfortunately, it appears that they are going to insist, and so they will have again selectively used the rules of this House to accomplish an end which would not have been reachable had the rules been adhered to in the first instance.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Are there any other Members who wish to argue the point of order?

The Chair finds that this amendment directly amends existing law. The amendment, therefore, constitutes legislation in violation of clause 2 of rule XXI. The point of order is sustained, and the amendment is not in order.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. DELAURO

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. DELAURO:

Page 84, after line 17, insert the following section:

SEC. 3013. Effective September 30, 2006, sections 319F-3 and 319F-4 of the Public Health Service Act (relating to liability protections for pandemic and epidemic products and security countermeasures), as added by division C of Public Law 109-148 (119 Stat. 2818), are repealed.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the gentlewoman's amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman reserves a point of order.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This amendment is very simple. It repeals the comprehensive liability protection for vaccine manufacturers by the end of the fiscal year, September 30. I believe some sort of liability protection or indemnification is necessary

and appropriate to encourage the development and the manufacture of some measures that are going to deal with a pandemic flu. I would support reasonable language.

Whatever our respective views are about the wisdom of liability protection, the manner in which this particular provision was included in the defense appropriation bill last year is indefensible.

Last December, legislation granting liability protection to the vaccine manufacturers was unilaterally inserted into the defense appropriations bill after the conference had closed, after an understanding verbally and in writing that no legislative liability language would be inserted into the bill. It was done in the dead of night, absent any careful consideration, no public hearings or debate among the Members of this body, nothing. It was the work of one person and one body. It should never have been allowed.

Further, there are now no means for victims who are seriously injured to seek compensation, unlike other Federal vaccine programs: swine flu, smallpox, children's vaccines. Usually when government grants liability exemptions to companies, it provides some form of relief for the consumers who are injured.

As we further discovered about this bill, the liability protection was granted not only to vaccines being developed to prepare us for an avian flu outbreak but also for a far broader range of potential vaccines and medical equipment, just about anything else the HHS Secretary deems appropriate.

This sweeping, unchecked power granted to a Cabinet Secretary is unprecedented, to my knowledge, also sweeping power granted to the pharmaceutical industry. The Congress ought to consider carefully before ceding its authority to this or any administration.

Under this law, manufacturers and their suppliers, distributors and their employees would be shielded from a lawsuit, even if they turned out to be negligent or reckless. None of us would agree that a negligent distributor, someone who ruined a vaccine by mishandling it, for example, should be held harmless. Do we want to say a drug maker who knows a product is defective but chooses to sell it anyway is above the law?

We face a frightening prospect that millions of Americans could contract this deadly flu. Our first priority ought to be inoculating the American public from a deadly strain of flu and not inoculating pharmaceutical companies from the threat of legal liability.

This provision has serious implications. All my amendment seeks to achieve is to grant the full Congress and the committees of jurisdiction the opportunity to fully consider the policy implications of this issue. It accomplishes that by sunseting comprehensive liability protection to the drug manufacturers beyond this fiscal year. It gives us plenty of time to have

the appropriate parties debate this issue thoroughly.

Lastly, let me say a word about the rationale for making this amendment in order, because I understand that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are preparing to challenge it on the basis of it being in violation of rule XXI and rule XVI, and that is certainly their right.

But before they do, let me ask, where was the concern for the rules when a Member of the other body unilaterally rewrote liability law in this country? Given the complete abdication of procedural norms which made this provision's enactment possible, which we have seen time and time again in this institution, I would ask the majority, spare us the lectures about the need to respect House rules in this instance.

Mr. Chairman, the House should have a full debate on this measure and an up-or-down vote. Let us give this institution the opportunity to reclaim the dignity, and constitutional authority, that the majority renounced in allowing one Member to usurp the power of this body, to bolster himself on this critical issue. That is what this amendment is about.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, we are here because last year on the defense appropriations bill, in the middle of the night, we were trying to finish action on that bill, and we had agreed that we would add the administration's request for \$7 billion to fund a research program to develop vaccines to deal with avian flu. When the majority produced their bill, it only had \$3.5 billion. We asked why the other money that was requested by the administration was not included. I was told by Senator STEVENS, the chairman of the conference, that that was because the majority party had decided that they would not deal with the issue of drug company indemnification, and until they did, they were not going to put the long-term money in the bill.

So they told us in writing, as well as orally, that they were not going to add any language indemnifying the drug companies. The conference ended about eight o'clock.

Close to midnight, the majority leader of the United States Senate walked over to the Speaker's office and insisted that 40 pages of language never read or never checked out by anybody, that 40 pages of language never voted on by anybody be inserted in that conference report without a vote of the conferees, and that was jammed down our throats the next day.

That language purported to protect drug companies in case they made some faulty flu vaccine; but, in fact, the language went far beyond that. It applied to all vaccines, it applied to all drugs and all medical devices that the Secretary chose to apply it to. It provided no possibility for judicial review at all. So in other words, it said if you

get sick, if you lose your health because of a faulty vaccine or a faulty device, you cannot sue the drug company; you have to collect from the government.

But guess what? They put no money in the fund that was supposed to be used to compensate victims. So it was a catch-22.

We are here today because, in my view, that action inserting that language, without a vote of the conferees, was one of the most egregious corruptions of the legislative process that I have seen in the 37 years that I have been here. And we are trying to use the rules of the House today to reverse what happened because of an egregious abuse of those rules by the leadership of this House and by the leadership of the Senate.

Of all people, of all people in the Congress, the leadership of both Houses have an obligation to protect the integrity of the institution and the integrity of the rules. When they themselves lead the charge to obliterate any opportunity to use the rules in defense of normal processes in this House, then, in my view, they have ultimately corrupted the process of legislation.

So this amendment ordinarily would not be here, but the damage was done on this bill last year, and so we are trying to use the same vehicle to undo the damage. We recognize there needs to be some indemnification language, but it needs to be reviewed by somebody other than drug company lobbyists; and until that happens, I am going to continue to be mad as hell about this and do everything I possibly can to reverse the outcome.

We are trying to preach democracy in Iraq. It would be nice if the leadership of this Congress showed some here at home in this institution.

□ 1430

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, may I inquire as to how much time I have remaining?

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. FOLEY). The gentlewoman has 30 seconds remaining.

Ms. DELAURO. I would just conclude by saying that this is about inoculating the American public against a deadly flu. We are not in the business and we are not charged with inoculating the pharmaceutical companies from the threat of legal liability. That is not why we were sent to the United States Congress. We are here to protect the public interest and the public trust.

Let us do our job. Let the appropriate committees of jurisdiction deal with this issue; have the companies, have the consumers bring people together. That is simply what this legislation and my amendment is all about.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Does the gentleman insist on his point of order?

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. LEWIS of California. Yes, Mr. Chairman. I must say that I think you

know me well; that my colleagues do as well. I feel very strongly about the rules of the House and I feel very strongly about the way we operate with each other. I must say I have regretted from time to time all the lessons learned when the former majority ran the House. But because of that experience, I must propound my point of order.

So, Mr. Chairman, I make a point of order against the amendment because it proposes to change existing law and constitutes legislation on an appropriations bill and therefore violates clause 2 of rule XXI.

The rule states in pertinent part: "An amendment to a general appropriations bill shall not be in order if it changes existing law." This proposal directly changes existing law.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does any Member wish to be recognized on the gentleman's point of order?

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I would simply say that what the gentleman is suggesting by insisting on his point of order is that the rules of this House may be bent by the majority in order to provide special interest language in a piece of legislation, but they cannot be used by the minority to defend the public interest in that same case. I would find that a strange interpretation of the rules indeed.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does any other Member wish to be heard on the point of order? Hearing none, the Chair is prepared to rule.

The Chair finds this amendment repeals existing law. The amendment therefore constitutes legislation in violation of clause 2 of rule XXI. The point of order is sustained and the amendment is not in order.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, because this is the only way that we can protest this egregious corruption of the rules of the House, I respectfully appeal the ruling of the Chair.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is, Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the Committee of the Whole?

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, and the order of the House of today, this 15-minute vote on the appeal of the ruling of the Chair will be followed by the following amendments on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order: The amendment by Mr. SABO of Minnesota, 5-minute vote; the amendment by Mr. NEUGEBAUER of Texas, a 2-minute vote; the amendment by Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD of California, a 2-minute vote; the amendment by Mr. CONAWAY of Texas, a 2-minute vote.

The Chair wishes to underscore the 2-minute vote was agreed to by this

Chamber. We will hold those votes strictly to 2 minutes. Members are advised to watch the board that they have properly recorded their votes during those 2-minute votes.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 223, noes 193, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 55]

AYES—223

Aderholt	Gibbons	Northup
Akin	Gilchrest	Norwood
Alexander	Gillmor	Nunes
Bachus	Gingrey	Nussle
Baker	Gohmert	Osborne
Barrett (SC)	Goode	Otter
Bartlett (MD)	Goodlatte	Paul
Barton (TX)	Granger	Pearce
Bass	Graves	Pence
Beauprez	Green (WI)	Peterson (PA)
Biggart	Gutknecht	Petri
Bilirakis	Hall	Pickering
Bishop (UT)	Harris	Pitts
Blackburn	Hart	Platts
Blunt	Hastings (WA)	Poe
Boehlert	Hayes	Pombo
Boehner	Hayworth	Porter
Bonilla	Hefley	Price (GA)
Bonner	Hensarling	Pryce (OH)
Bono	Herger	Radanovich
Boozman	Hobson	Ramstad
Boustany	Hoekstra	Regula
Bradley (NH)	Hostettler	Rehberg
Brady (TX)	Hulshof	Reichert
Brown (SC)	Hunter	Renzi
Brown-Waite,	Hyde	Reynolds
Ginny	Inglis (SC)	Rogers (AL)
Burgess	Issa	Rogers (KY)
Burton (IN)	Istook	Rogers (MI)
Buyer	Jenkins	Rohrabacher
Calvert	Johnson (CT)	Ros-Lehtinen
Camp (MI)	Johnson (IL)	Royce
Campbell (CA)	Johnson, Sam	Ryan (WI)
Cannon	Jones (NC)	Ryun (KS)
Cantor	Keller	Saxton
Capito	Kelly	Schmidt
Carter	Kennedy (MN)	Schwarz (MI)
Castle	King (IA)	Sessions
Chabot	King (NY)	Shadegg
Chocola	Kingston	Shaw
Coble	Kirk	Shays
Cole (OK)	Kline	Sherwood
Conaway	Kolbe	Shimkus
Crenshaw	Kuhl (NY)	Shuster
Cubin	LaHood	Simmons
Culberson	Latham	Simpson
Davis (KY)	LaTourette	Smith (NJ)
Davis, Jo Ann	Leach	Smith (TX)
Davis, Tom	Lewis (CA)	Sodrel
Deal (GA)	Lewis (KY)	Souder
DeLay	Linder	Stearns
Dent	LoBiondo	Sullivan
Diaz-Balart, L.	Lucas	Tancred
Diaz-Balart, M.	Lungren, Daniel	Taylor (NC)
Doolittle	E.	Terry
Drake	Mack	Thomas
Dreier	Manzullo	Thornberry
Ehlers	Marchant	Tiahrt
Emerson	McCaul (TX)	Tiberi
English (PA)	McCotter	Turner
Everett	McCrery	Upton
Feeney	McHenry	Walden (OR)
Ferguson	McHugh	Walsh
Fitzpatrick (PA)	McKeon	Wamp
Flake	McMorris	Weldon (FL)
Foley	Mica	Weldon (PA)
Forbes	Miller (FL)	Weller
Fortenberry	Miller (MI)	Westmoreland
Fossella	Miller, Gary	Whitfield
Fox	Moran (KS)	Wicker
Franks (AZ)	Murphy	Wilson (NM)
Frelinghuysen	Musgrave	Wilson (SC)
Gallegly	Myrick	Wolf
Garrett (NJ)	Neugebauer	Young (AK)
Gerlach	Ney	Young (FL)

NOES—193

Abercrombie	Becerra	Boyd
Ackerman	Berkley	Brady (PA)
Allen	Berman	Brown (OH)
Andrews	Berry	Brown, Corrine
Baca	Bishop (GA)	Butterfield
Baird	Bishop (NY)	Capps
Baldwin	Blumenauer	Capuano
Barrow	Boswell	Cardin
Bean	Boucher	Cardoza

Carnahan	Johnson, E. B.	Pelosi
Carson	Jones (OH)	Peterson (MN)
Case	Kanjorski	Pomeroy
Chandler	Kaptur	Price (NC)
Clay	Kennedy (RI)	Rahall
Cleaver	Kildee	Rangel
Clyburn	Kilpatrick (MI)	Reyes
Conyers	Kind	Ross
Cooper	Langevin	Rothman
Costa	Lantos	Roybal-Allard
Costello	Larsen (WA)	Ruppersberger
Cramer	Larson (CT)	Rush
Crowley	Lee	Ryan (OH)
Cuellar	Levin	Sabo
Cummings	Lewis (GA)	Salazar
Davis (AL)	Lipinski	Sánchez, Linda
Davis (FL)	Lofgren, Zoe	T.
Davis (TN)	Lowey	Sánchez, Loretta
DeFazio	Lynch	Sanders
DeGette	Maloney	Schakowsky
Delahunt	Markey	Schiff
DeLauro	Marshall	Schwartz (PA)
Dicks	Matheson	Scott (GA)
Dingell	Matsui	Serrano
Doggett	McCarthy	Sherman
Doyle	McCollum (MN)	Skelton
Edwards	McDermott	Slaughter
Emanuel	McGovern	Smith (WA)
Engel	McIntyre	Snyder
Eshoo	McKinney	Solis
Etheridge	McNulty	Spratt
Farr	Meehan	Stark
Fattah	Meek (FL)	Stupak
Filner	Meeks (NY)	Tanner
Ford	Melancon	Tauscher
Frank (MA)	Michaud	Taylor (MS)
Gonzalez	Millender-	Thompson (CA)
Gordon	McDonald	Thompson (MS)
Green, Al	Miller (NC)	Tierney
Green, Gene	Miller, George	Towns
Grijalva	Mollohan	Udall (CO)
Gutierrez	Moore (KS)	Udall (NM)
Harman	Moore (WI)	Van Hollen
Herse	Moran (VA)	Velázquez
Hinchey	Murtha	Visclosky
Hinojosa	Nadler	Wasserman
Holden	Napolitano	Schultz
Holt	Neal (MA)	Waters
Honda	Oberstar	Watson
Hooley	Obey	Watt
Hoyer	Olver	Waxman
Inslee	Ortiz	Weiner
Israel	Owens	Wexler
Jackson (IL)	Pallone	Woolsey
Jackson-Lee	Pascarell	Wu
(TX)	Pastor	Wynn
Jefferson	Payne	

NOT VOTING—16

Boren	Higgins	Scott (VA)
Davis (CA)	Jindal	Sensenbrenner
Davis (IL)	Knollenberg	Strickland
Duncan	Kucinich	Sweeney
Evans	Oxley	
Hastings (FL)	Putnam	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. FOLEY) (during the vote). Members are advised 2 minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1457

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. MCKINNEY, Messrs. ROTHMAN, EDWARDS, TAYLOR of Mississippi and Melancon changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Messrs. REGULA, BOOZMAN, BUYER and TOM DAVIS of Virginia changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the decision of the Chair stands as the judgment of the Committee.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall No. 55, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

(By unanimous consent, Ms. ESHOO was allowed to speak out of order.)

HONORING PROFILES IN COURAGE RECIPIENT

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, this year marks the 50th anniversary of the pub-

lication of John F. Kennedy's book “Profiles in Courage.”

Last Thursday, one of our colleagues was chosen as the recipient for this year, the 50th anniversary of President Kennedy's book “Profiles in Courage,” as the Profile of Courage in the year 2006.

Our distinguished colleague, Congressman JOHN MURTHA, is the recipient in 2006. We want to pay tribute to Congressman JOHN MURTHA as the recipient of the John F. Kennedy Profiles in Courage Award recipient.

Congratulations, JACK.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, reduced-time voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The Chair reminds Members this 5-minute vote will be followed by three 2-minute votes.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. SABO

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. SABO) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 208, noes 210, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 56]

AYES—208

Abercrombie	Crowley	Hinojosa
Ackerman	Cuellar	Holden
Allen	Cummings	Holt
Andrews	Davis (AL)	Honda
Baca	Davis (FL)	Hooley
Baird	Davis (TN)	Hoyer
Baldwin	DeFazio	Inslee
Barrow	DeGette	Israel
Bean	Delahunt	Jackson (IL)
Becerra	DeLauro	Jackson-Lee
Berkley	Dicks	(TX)
Berman	Dingell	Jefferson
Berry	Doggett	Johnson, E. B.
Bishop (GA)	Doyle	Jones (OH)
Bishop (NY)	Edwards	Kanjorski
Blumenauer	Emanuel	Kaptur
Boswell	Engel	Kennedy (RI)
Boucher	Eshoo	Kildee
Boyd	Etheridge	Kilpatrick (MI)
Brady (PA)	Farr	Kind
Brown (OH)	Fattah	Kucinich
Brown, Corrine	Ferguson	Langevin
Butterfield	Filner	Lantos
Capps	Fitzpatrick (PA)	Larsen (WA)
Capuano	Ford	Larson (CT)
Cardin	Frank (MA)	Lee
Cardoza	Garrett (NJ)	Levin
Carnahan	Gerlach	Lewis (GA)
Carson	Gonzalez	Lipinski
Case	Gordon	LoBiondo
Chandler	Green, Al	Lofgren, Zoe
Clay	Green, Gene	Lowey
Cleaver	Grijalva	Lynch
Clyburn	Gutierrez	Maloney
Conyers	Harman	Markey
Cooper	Hayworth	Marshall
Costa	Herse	Matheson
Costello	Higgins	Matsui
Cramer	Hinchey	McCarthy

McCollum (MN) Pelosi
 McDermott Peterson (MN)
 McGovern Pomeroy
 McIntyre Porter
 McKinney Price (NC)
 McNulty Rahall
 Meehan Rangel
 Meek (FL) Renzi
 Meeks (NY) Reyes
 Melancon Ross
 Michaud Rothman
 Millender Roybal-Allard
 McDonald Ruppertsberger
 Miller (NC) Rush
 Miller, George Ryan (OH)
 Mollohan Sabo
 Moore (KS) Salazar
 Moore (WI) Sánchez, Linda
 Moran (VA) T.
 Murtha Sanchez, Loretta
 Nadler Sanders
 Napolitano Saxton
 Neal (MA) Schakowsky
 Oberstar Schiff
 Obey Schwartz (PA)
 Olver Scott (GA)
 Ortiz Serrano
 Owens Shadegg
 Pallone Sherman
 Pascrell Simmons
 Pastor Skelton
 Payne Slaughter

NOES—210

Aderholt Fossella
 Akin Foxx
 Alexander Franks (AZ)
 Bachus Frelinghuysen
 Baker Gallegly
 Barrett (SC) Gibbons
 Bartlett (MD) Gilchrist
 Barton (TX) Gillmor
 Bass Gingrey
 Beauprez Gohmert
 Biggert Goode
 Bilirakis Goodlatte
 Bishop (UT) Granger
 Blackburn Graves
 Blunt Green (WI)
 Boehlert Gutknecht
 Boehner Hall
 Bonilla Harris
 Bonner Hart
 Bono Hastings (WA)
 Boozman Hayes
 Boustany Hefley
 Bradley (NH) Hensarling
 Brady (TX) Herger
 Brown (SC) Hobson
 Brown-Waite, Hoekstra
 Ginny Hostettler
 Burgess Hulshof
 Burton (IN) Hunter
 Calvert Hyde
 Camp (MI) Inglis (SC)
 Campbell (CA) Issa
 Cannon Istook
 Cantor Jenkins
 Capito Jindal
 Carter Johnson (IL)
 Castle Johnson, Sam
 Chabot Jones (NC)
 Chocola Keller
 Coble Kelly
 Cole (OK) Kennedy (MN)
 Conaway King (IA)
 Crenshaw King (NY)
 Cubin Kingston
 Culberson Kirk
 Davis (KY) Kline
 Davis, Jo Ann Kolbe
 Davis, Tom Kuhl (NY)
 Deal (GA) LaHood
 DeLay Latham
 Dent LaTourette
 Diaz-Balart, L. Leach
 Diaz-Balart, M. Lewis (CA)
 Doolittle Lewis (KY)
 Drake Linder
 Dreier Lucas
 Ehlers Lungren, Daniel
 Emerson E.
 English (PA) Mack
 Everett Manzullo
 Feeney Marchant
 Flake McCaul (TX)
 Foley McCotter
 Forbes McCrery
 Fortenberry McHenry

Smith (NJ)
 Smith (WA)
 Snyder
 Solis
 Spratt
 Stark
 Stupak
 Tanner
 Tauscher
 Taylor (MS)
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Tierney
 Towns
 Udall (CO)
 Udall (NM)
 Van Hollen
 Velázquez
 Visclosky
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson
 Watt
 Waxman
 Weiner
 Wexler
 Wilson (NM)
 Woolsey
 Wu
 Wynn

Tiahrt
 Tiberi
 Turner
 Upton
 Walden (OR)
 Walsh

Wamp
 Weldon (FL)
 Weldon (PA)
 Weller
 Westmoreland
 Whitfield

Wicker
 Wilson (SC)
 Wolf
 Young (AK)
 Young (FL)

Baker
 Baldwin
 Barrow
 Bass
 Bean
 Becerra
 Berkley
 Berman
 Berry
 Bilirakis
 Bishop (GA)
 Bishop (NY)
 Blumenauer
 Blunt
 Boehlert
 Boehner
 Bonilla
 Bonner
 Bono
 Boozman
 Boswell
 Boucher
 Boustany
 Boyd
 Bradley (NH)
 Brady (PA)
 Brady (TX)
 Brown (OH)
 Brown (SC)
 Brown, Corrine
 Burton (IN)
 Butterfield
 Calvert
 Cantor
 Capito
 Capps
 Capuano
 Cardin
 Cardoza
 Carnahan
 Carson
 Carter
 Case
 Castle
 Chandler
 Chocola
 Clay
 Cleaver
 Clyburn
 Cole (OK)
 Conyers
 Cooper
 Costa
 Costello
 Cramer
 Crenshaw
 Crowley
 Cuellar
 Culberson
 Cummings
 Davis (AL)
 Davis (FL)
 Davis (KY)
 Davis (TN)
 Davis, Tom
 DeFazio
 DeGette
 Delahunt
 DeLauro
 DeLay
 Dent
 Diaz-Balart, L.
 Diaz-Balart, M.
 Dicks
 Dingell
 Doggett
 Doolittle
 Doyle
 Drake
 Dreier
 Edwards
 Ehlers
 Emanuel
 Emerson
 Engel
 English (PA)
 Eshoo
 Etheridge
 Everett
 Farr
 Fattah
 Feeney
 Ferguson
 Filner
 Fitzpatrick (PA)
 Ford
 Frank (MA)
 Frelinghuysen
 Gallegly

Gerlach
 Gilchrest
 Gillmor
 Gonzalez
 Goodlatte
 Gordon
 Granger
 Green (WI)
 Green, Al
 Green, Gene
 Grijalva
 Gutierrez
 Hall
 Harman
 Harris
 Hart
 Hastings (WA)
 Herseeth
 Higgins
 Hinchey
 Hinojosa
 Hobson
 Hoekstra
 Holden
 Holt
 Honda
 Hooley
 Hoyer
 Hulshof
 Hunter
 Hyde
 Inslee
 Israel
 Issa
 Jackson (IL)
 Jackson-Lee
 (TX)
 Jefferson
 Jenkins
 Jindal
 Johnson (CT)
 Johnson (IL)
 Johnson, E. B.
 Jones (OH)
 Kanjorski
 Kaptur
 Keller
 Kelly
 Kennedy (MN)
 Kennedy (RI)
 Kildee
 Kilpatrick (MI)
 Kind
 King (NY)
 Kirk
 Kolbe
 Kucinich
 LaHood
 Langevin
 Lantos
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Latham
 LaTourette
 Leach
 Lee
 Levin
 Lewis (CA)
 Lewis (GA)
 Lipinski
 LoBiondo
 Lofgren, Zoe
 Lowey
 Lucas
 Lungren, Daniel
 E.
 Lynch
 Maloney
 Markey
 Marshall
 Matheson
 Matsui
 McCarthy
 McCollum (MN)
 McCotter
 McCrery
 McDermott
 McGovern
 McHugh
 McIntyre
 McKeon
 McMorris
 McNulty
 Meehan
 Meek (FL)
 Meeks (NY)
 Melancon
 Mica
 Michaud

Millender-
 McDonald
 Miller (NC)
 Miller, George
 Mollohan
 Moore (KS)
 Moore (WI)
 Moran (VA)
 Murphy
 Murtha
 Myrick
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal (MA)
 Ney
 Northup
 Nunes
 Oberstar
 Obey
 Olver
 Ortiz
 Owens
 Oxley
 Pallone
 Pascrell
 Pastor
 Payne
 Peterson (MN)
 Peterson (PA)
 Pickering
 Platts
 Pombo
 Pomeroy
 Porter
 Price (NC)
 Pryce (OH)
 Putnam
 Radanovich
 Rahall
 Ramstad
 Rangel
 Regula
 Rehberg
 Reichert
 Renzi
 Reyes
 Reynolds
 Rogers (KY)
 Rogers (MI)
 Ros-Lehtinen
 Ross
 Rothman
 Roybal-Allard
 Ruppertsberger
 Rush
 Ryan (OH)
 Sabo
 Salazar
 Sánchez, Linda
 T.
 Sanchez, Loretta
 Sanders
 Saxton
 Schakowsky
 Schiff
 Schmidt
 Schwartz (PA)
 Schwarz (MI)
 Scott (GA)
 Serrano
 Shaw
 Shays
 Sherman
 Sherwood
 Shimkus
 Simmons
 Simpson
 Skelton
 Slaughter
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (TX)
 Smith (WA)
 Snyder
 Solis
 Souder
 Spratt
 Stark
 Stupak
 Tanner
 Tauscher
 Taylor (MS)
 Taylor (NC)
 Thomas
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Thornberry
 Tiberi
 Tierney

NOT VOTING—14

Boren
 Buyer
 Davis (CA)
 Davis (IL)
 Duncan
 Evans
 Hastings (FL)
 Johnson (CT)
 Knollenberg
 Miller (FL)
 Scott (VA)
 Sensenbrenner
 Strickland
 Sweeney

□ 1508

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey changed his vote from “no” to “aye.”
 So the amendment was rejected.
 The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 12 OFFERED BY MR. NEUGEBAUER

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. FOLEY). The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEUGEBAUER) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote. Recorded votes on the remaining questions in this series will be conducted as 2-minute votes. Members are asked to remain in the Chamber. Members also should be aware that they can greatly expedite the process by recording their votes electronically at the voting stations rather than by ballot card in the well.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 89, noes 332, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 57]

AYES—89

Akin
 Barrett (SC)
 Bartlett (MD)
 Barton (TX)
 Beauprez
 Biggert
 Bishop (UT)
 Blackburn
 Brown-Waite, Ginny
 Burgess
 Buyer
 Camp (MI)
 Campbell (CA)
 Cannon
 Chabot
 Coble
 Conaway
 Cubin
 Davis, Jo Ann
 Deal (GA)
 Flake
 Foley
 Forbes
 Fortenberry
 Fossella
 Foxx
 Franks (AZ)
 Garrett (NJ)
 Gibbons
 Gingrey
 Gohmert
 Goode
 Graves
 Gutknecht
 Hayes
 Hayworth
 Hefley
 Hensarling
 Herger
 Hostettler
 Inglis (SC)
 Istook
 Johnson, Sam
 Jones (NC)
 King (IA)
 Kingston
 Kline
 Kuhl (NY)
 Lewis (KY)
 Linder
 Mack
 Manzullo
 Marchant
 McCaul (TX)
 McHenry
 McKinney
 Miller (FL)
 Miller (MI)
 Miller, Gary
 Moran (KS)
 Musgrave
 Neugebauer
 Norwood
 Nussle
 Osborne
 Otter
 Paul
 Pearce
 Pence
 Petri
 Pitts
 Poe
 Price (GA)
 Rogers (AL)
 Rohrabacher
 Royce
 Ryan (WI)
 Ryan (KS)
 Sessions
 Shadegg
 Shuster
 Sodrel
 Stearns
 Sullivan
 Tancredo
 Terry
 Tiahrt
 Westmoreland
 Young (AK)

NOES—332

Abercrombie
 Ackerman
 Aderholt
 Alexander
 Allen
 Andrews
 Baca
 Bachus
 Baird

Towns
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp

Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler

Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Young (FL)

Melancon
Michaud
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)

Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sabo
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanders
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz (PA)
Scott (GA)
Serrano
Sherman
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis

Spratt
Stark
Stupak
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Wexler
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn

Turner
Upton
Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp
Weldon (FL)

Weldon (PA)
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)

Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—11

Boren
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Duncan

Evans
Hastings (FL)
Knollenberg
Scott (VA)

Sensenbrenner
Strickland
Sweeney

□ 1512

Mr. ROTHMAN changed his vote from “aye” to “no.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. MILLENDER-MCDONALD

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 194, noes 227, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 58]

AYES—194

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Andrews
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brown (OH)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carson
Case
Chandler
Clay
Cleave
Clyburn
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Cramer
Crowley

Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (FL)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Ford
Frank (MA)
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Harman
Herseth
Higgins
Hinche
Hinojosa
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoolley
Hoyer
Inslee

Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kind
Kucinich
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Loftgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Maloney
Markley
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy
McCollum (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bass
Beauprez
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boustany
Bradley (NH)
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Castle
Chabot
Chocola
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeLay
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Ehlers
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Feeney
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick (PA)
Flake
Foley
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxy
Franks (AZ)

NOES—227

Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Green (WI)
Gutknecht
Hall
Harris
Hart
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hostettler
Hulshof
Hunter
Hyde
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Istook
Jenkins
Jindal
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline
Kolbe
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCauley (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McHenry
McHugh
McKeon
McMorris
Mica

Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Northup
Norwood
Nunes
Nussle
Osborne
Otter
Oxley
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pombo
Porter
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Radanovich
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Ryan (KS)
Sanchez, Loretta
Saxton
Schmidt
Schwarz (MI)
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Sodrel
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Tancredo
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi

NOT VOTING—11

Boren
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Duncan

Evans
Hastings (FL)
Knollenberg
Scott (VA)

Sensenbrenner
Strickland
Sweeney

□ 1516

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. FOLEY). Twenty seconds remain in this vote.

Mr. MARKEY changed his vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CONAWAY

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. FOLEY). The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 76, noes 342, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 59]

AYES—76

Baker
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Brady (TX)
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Campbell (CA)
Cantor
Chabot
Coble
Conaway
Cubin
Culberson
Davis, Jo Ann
Deal (GA)
DeLay
Diaz-Balart, M.
Feeney
Flake
Forbes
Foxy
Franks (AZ)
Garrett (NJ)

Gibbons
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Gutknecht
Harris
Hefley
Hensarling
Herger
Hostettler
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Johnson, Sam
King (IA)
Kingston
Kolbe
Linder
Lucas
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCaul (TX)
McHenry
Mica
Miller (FL)

Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Norwood
Otter
Paul
Pearce
Pence
Pitts
Price (GA)
Rohrabacher
Royce
Ryan (KS)
Sessions
Shadegg
Shimkus
Tancredo
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Wamp
Westmoreland
Wilson (SC)

NOES—342

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Andrews
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bass
Bean
Beauprez

Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner
Bono

Boozman
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd
Bradley (NH)
Brady (PA)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Burgess
Butterfield
Calvert

Camp (MI)	Issa	Petri
Cannon	Jackson (IL)	Platts
Capito	Jackson-Lee	Poe
Capps	(TX)	Pombo
Capuano	Jefferson	Pomeroy
Cardin	Jenkins	Porter
Cardoza	Jindal	Price (NC)
Carnahan	Johnson (CT)	Pryce (OH)
Carson	Johnson (IL)	Putnam
Carter	Johnson, E. B.	Radanovich
Case	Jones (NC)	Rahall
Castle	Jones (OH)	Ramstad
Chandler	Kanjorski	Rangel
Chocola	Kaptur	Regula
Clay	Keller	Rehberg
Cleaver	Kelly	Reichert
Clyburn	Kennedy (MN)	Renzi
Cole (OK)	Kennedy (RI)	Reyes
Conyers	Kildee	Reynolds
Cooper	Kilpatrick (MI)	Rogers (AL)
Costa	Kind	Rogers (KY)
Costello	King (NY)	Rogers (MI)
Cramer	Kirk	Ros-Lehtinen
Crenshaw	Kline	Ross
Crowley	Kucinich	Rothman
Cuellar	Kuhl (NY)	Roybal-Allard
Cummings	LaHood	Ruppersberger
Davis (AL)	Langevin	Rush
Davis (FL)	Lantos	Ryan (OH)
Davis (KY)	Larsen (WA)	Ryan (WI)
Davis (TN)	Larson (CT)	Sabo
Davis, Tom	Latham	Salazar
DeFazio	LaTourette	Sánchez, Linda
DeGette	Leach	T.
Delahunt	Lee	Sanchez, Loretta
DeLauro	Levin	Sanders
Dent	Lewis (CA)	Saxton
Diaz-Balart, L.	Lewis (GA)	Schakowsky
Dicks	Lewis (KY)	Schiff
Dingell	Lipinski	Schmidt
Doggett	LoBiondo	Schwartz (PA)
Doolittle	Lofgren, Zoe	Schwarz (MI)
Doyle	Lowey	Scott (GA)
Drake	Lungren, Daniel	Serrano
Dreier	E.	Shaw
Edwards	Lynch	Shays
Ehlers	Maloney	Sherman
Emanuel	Markey	Sherwood
Emerson	Marshall	Shuster
Engel	Matheson	Simmons
English (PA)	Matsui	Simpson
Eshoo	McCarthy	Skelton
Etheridge	McCollum (MN)	Slaughter
Everett	McCotter	Smith (NJ)
Farr	McCrery	Smith (TX)
Fattah	McDermott	Smith (WA)
Ferguson	McGovern	Snyder
Filner	McHugh	Sodrel
Fitzpatrick (PA)	McIntyre	Solis
Foley	McKeon	Souder
Ford	McKinney	Spratt
Fortenberry	McMorris	Stark
Fossella	McNulty	Stearns
Frank (MA)	Meehan	Stupak
Frelinghuysen	Meek (FL)	Sullivan
Gallely	Meeks (NY)	Tanner
Gerlach	Melancon	Tauscher
Gilchrest	Michaud	Taylor (MS)
Gillmor	Millender-	Taylor (NC)
Gonzalez	McDonald	Terry
Gordon	Miller (MI)	Thomas
Granger	Miller (NC)	Thompson (CA)
Graves	Miller, George	Thompson (MS)
Green (WI)	Mollohan	Tiberi
Green, Al	Moore (KS)	Tierney
Green, Gene	Moore (WI)	Towns
Grijalva	Moran (VA)	Turner
Gutierrez	Murphy	Udall (CO)
Hall	Murtha	Udall (NM)
Harman	Nadler	Upton
Hart	Napolitano	Van Hollen
Hastings (WA)	Neal (MA)	Velázquez
Hayes	Ney	Visclosky
Hayworth	Northup	Walden (OR)
Herseth	Nunes	Walsh
Higgins	Nussle	Wasserman
Hinche	Oberstar	Schultz
Hinojosa	Obey	Waters
Hobson	Oliver	Watson
Hoekstra	Ortiz	Watt
Holden	Osborne	Waxman
Holt	Owens	Weiner
Honda	Oxley	Weldon (FL)
Hooley	Pallone	Weldon (PA)
Hoyer	Pascrell	Weller
Hulshof	Pastor	Wexler
Hyde	Payne	Whitfield
Inslee	Pelosi	Wicker
Israel	Peterson (MN)	Wilson (NM)

Wolfe	Wu	Young (AK)
Woolsey	Wynn	Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—14

Boren	Hastings (FL)	Scott (VA)
Davis (CA)	Istook	Sensenbrenner
Davis (IL)	Knollenberg	Strickland
Duncan	Peterson (PA)	Sweeney
Evans	Pickering	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN (during the vote). Fifteen seconds remain in this vote.

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. KNOLLENBERG: Mr. Chairman, on March 16, 2006, I was unavoidably absent and missed rollcall votes 55–59. For the record, had I been present, I would have voted: No. 55—"yea"; No. 56—"nay"; No. 57—"nay"; No. 58—"nay"; 59—"nay."

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Committee will rise informally.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California) assumed the Chair.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Wanda Evans, one of his secretaries.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Committee will resume its sitting.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006

The Committee resumed its sitting.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE) for the purpose of a colloquy.

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the chairman of the full committee for yielding to me for purposes of this colloquy. I would like to engage in a colloquy with the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE).

I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Chairman, this goes to the issue of \$50 million in economic support funds for Liberia. What I wanted to say, on this issue, is that the United States has been very generous with Liberia. We have committed nearly \$1.5 billion, and that includes the funding for U.N. peacekeeping, and of course President Bush deployed U.S. Marines in Liberia to end the fighting there. My concern is that the former Liberian President, Charles Taylor, frankly, is first among warlords. He faces a 17-count indictment by the U.S. backed Special Court for his crimes against humanity, and yet he is living in cushy exile in Nigeria.

This is a problem on several counts. Taylor must face justice for the killing and maiming that he engineered. Bringing him to the Special Court will

end the cycle of impunity that destabilizes West Africa, and most pressing to today's business, Taylor remains a threat to the progress that the U.S. has done so much to achieve. It is probable that left in exile, Taylor will return to Liberia, as he has pledged to do, and knock over all that we have helped build up, throwing that region back into chaos.

Congress passed a resolution calling for Taylor to be sent to the Special Court. Yesterday, Liberia's new President addressed this Congress. She had an inspiring message. But what many human rights and civil society groups were hoping to hear was a loud and clear call for Taylor to be turned over to the court now before it is too late. While Taylor is in Nigeria, Nigeria's president has said he would honor an extradition request made by Liberia's new president. We are waiting for that request.

This bill would tack on an added \$50 million in emergency spending for Liberia. I am worried about the message this sends about our seriousness of purpose regarding Charles Taylor. We continue our generosity, yet the Liberian president continues to defy the wishes of many Liberians by not acting to bring Charles Taylor to justice.

So, Mr. Chairman, I considered offering an amendment to strike or condition this \$50 million. What I seek instead is to hear from you on this issue.

Mr. KOLBE. I thank the gentleman for his comments, and I particularly thank him for his longstanding effort on behalf of West African nations and the people of West Africa, and certainly Liberia. I share his concern about a long lasting peace for Liberia, as I know all in this body do, and we also share the concern that Charles Taylor represents a threat to everything that the United States is trying to accomplish through its aid efforts and its commitment of troops to bring about peace and stability in Liberia.

I will tell the gentleman as this process unfolds, the committee has been and will continue to closely monitor developments with Charles Taylor.

I think I have some good news I can bring to the gentleman. Just before this series of votes, Mrs. LOWEY, my ranking member, and I completed a meeting with President Sirleaf, who, of course, addressed this body yesterday. We asked this question specifically, will there be an extradition request? I asked it three times, and got the same answer three times, that it has been done. She used the word "done" three times. So the request for extradition has been done. We believe and she has said that he needs to be brought to justice in an appropriate court.

So the request to the President of Liberia has been made. She went on to tell us that President Olusegun is now consulting with African leaders from the African Union and the Economic Community of West African Countries, ECOWAS, to make sure that the extradition will not in any way destabilize

the very fragile peace that now exists there. Once that is done, we would expect to see this accomplished.

The request for extradition has been done, and we will continue to remain engaged and watch this very, very closely, as this process of the supplemental unfolds.

Mr. ROYCE. I thank the gentleman from Arizona and the gentlewoman from New York, and certainly the chairman of the committee.

AMENDMENT NO. 26 OFFERED BY MS. KAPTUR

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 26 offered by Ms. KAPTUR:
H.R. 4939

On page 84, after line 17, insert the following:

TITLE IV—ESTABLISHMENT OF A “TRUMAN” INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE TO PROTECT AGAINST WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE RELATED TO CONTRACTS FOR THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM AND HURRICANES KATRINA AND RITA REBUILDING EFFORTS

SEC. 401. There is hereby created a select committee on the model of the Truman Committee to investigate the awarding and carrying out of contracts to conduct military operations and relief and reconstruction activities related to the global war on terrorism (including all activities in Afghanistan and Iraq), and Hurricane Katrina recovery, relief, and reconstruction efforts (hereinafter referred to as the “select committee”).

SEC. 402. (a) The select committee is to be composed of 19 Members of the House, one of whom shall be designated as chairman from the majority party and one of whom shall be designated ranking member from the minority party. The chairmen and ranking minority members of the following committees will serve on the select committee:

- (1) Committee on Armed Services;
- (2) Committee on Government Reform;
- (3) Committee on Homeland Security; and
- (4) Committee on International Relations.

The chairmen and ranking minority members of the following subcommittees of the Committee on Appropriations will serve on the select committee:

- (1) Subcommittee on Defense;
- (2) Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs.
- (3) Subcommittee on Homeland Security.

In addition, the Speaker shall appoint 5 members of the select committee, of which 2 members shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the minority leader. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the select committee shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(b) The select committee shall conduct an ongoing study and investigation of the awarding and carrying out of contracts by the Government for military operations and relief and reconstruction activities related to the global war on terrorism (including all activities in Afghanistan and Iraq), and Hurricane Katrina recovery, relief, and reconstruction efforts and make such recommendations to the House as the select committee deems appropriate regarding the following matters:

- (1) Bidding, contracting, and auditing standards in the issuance of Government contracts;

- (2) Oversight procedures;
- (3) Forms of payment and safeguards against money laundering.
- (4) Accountability of contractors and Government officials involved in procurement;
- (5) Penalties for violations of law and abuses in the awarding and carrying out of Government contracts;
- (6) Subcontracting under large, comprehensive contracts;
- (7) Inclusion and utilization of small businesses, through subcontracts or otherwise.
- (8) Such other matters as the select committee deems appropriate.

SEC. 403. (a) QUORUM.—One-third of the members of the select committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business except for the reporting of the results of its study and investigation (with its recommendations) or the authorization of subpoenas, which shall require a majority of the committee to be actually present, except that the select committee may designate a lesser number, but not less than two, as a quorum for the purpose of holding hearings to take testimony and receive evidence.

(b) POWERS.—For the purpose of carrying out this title, the select committee may sit and act during the present Congress at any time and place within the United States or elsewhere, whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned and hold such hearings as it considers necessary and to require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses, the furnishing of information by interrogatory, and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, documents, and other things and information of any kind as it deems necessary, including relevant classified materials.

(c) ISSUANCE OF SUBPOENAS.—A subpoena may be authorized and issued by the select committee in the conduct of any investigation or series of investigations or activities, only when authorized by a majority of the members voting, a majority being present. Authorized subpoenas shall be signed by the chairman or by any member designated by the select committee, and may be served by any person designated by the chairman or such member. Subpoenas shall be issued under the seal of the House and attested by the Clerk. The select committee may request investigations, reports, and other assistance from any agency of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the Government.

(d) MEETINGS.—The chairman, or in his absence a member designated by the chairman, shall preside at all meetings and hearings of the select committee. All meetings and hearings of the select committee shall be conducted in open session, unless a majority of members of the select committee voting, there being in attendance the requisite number required for the purpose of hearings to take testimony, vote to close a meeting or hearing.

(e) APPLICABILITIES OF RULES OF THE HOUSE.—The Rules of the House of Representatives applicable to standing committees shall govern the select committee where not inconsistent with this title.

(f) WRITTEN COMMITTEE RULES.—The select committee shall adopt additional written rules, which shall be public, to govern its procedures, which shall not be inconsistent with this title or the Rules of the House of Representatives.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the gentlewoman's amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from California, the chairman, reserves a point of order.

The gentlewoman from Ohio may proceed.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chairman, my amendment, offered with its very able champion, Congressman JOHN TIERNEY of Massachusetts, will create a select House committee modeled on the Truman Commission created during World War II to exercise due diligence and proper congressional oversight on the over half a trillion dollars of expenditures by the government of the United States to conduct the global war on terrorism, as well as those contracts let for rebuilding of the gulf region after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The original Truman Commission recouped over \$15 billion to our taxpayers. That is big money in our time. But it was huge money back then, returned to our taxpayers from those interests that were conducting their business above and beyond the letter of the law.

We are asking for a thorough investigation of any waste, fraud and abuse in government contracts associated with the Iraq war and the global war on terrorism, as well as Katrina-Rita recovery and reconstruction.

Our amendment is responsible. It is a good government amendment. It provides real means for oversight that is thorough, not anecdotal.

Currently, no committee in this House has full investigative authority to probe growing public concerns about where our tax dollars are being spent in this contracting. The charges are legion of cost-plus contracts, contractor fraud, as contracts below \$500,000 are purposely kept at that level to circumvent review. Criminal operatives like Rob Stein have been charged and arrested for manipulating Iraqi Coalition Provisional Authority accounts in bribery and kickback schemes, waste and abuse.

This administration is moving billions of dollars with no audit trails, even back to the Appropriations Committee, which should receive those audits. In Iraq, no-bid contracts of enormous proportions are let, like to Halliburton. In Iraq, rebuilding contracts, amounting to millions are missing. A few wrongdoers have been arrested, but they are just the tip of the iceberg. Companies like Custer Battles, given contracts to secure Baghdad Airport, is a company that never did security work. Indeed it submitted invoices for electricity that were only valued at \$74,000, but they got \$400,000. Broken trucks bought in local markets cost \$228,000, yet Custer Battles billed for \$800,000. In our Gulf region, no-bid contracts need Congressional oversight.

□ 1530

Over 10,000 manufactured houses sit on the ground in open fields in Hope, Arkansas, costing more than \$300 million.

Our amendment aims to protect the taxpayer. It will save money. It will

save lives as we bring back inferior equipment that is discovered during this oversight.

This amendment will allow Congress to do its job, to oversee exactly how billions in taxpayer dollars are being spent in Iraq and our Gulf coast. The American people deserve this kind of responsible government.

It is critical that Congress curtail the opportunities for waste, fraud and abuse in future Federal contracting and bring those to task who are not meeting the letter and spirit of the law.

Mr. Chairman, I will be pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts and any remaining time I may have to himself as well as to Congressman WALTER JONES of North Carolina for their stellar work on this effort.

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Chairman, I just want to make mention, without repeating what the gentlewoman has said, this Government Reform Committee, the full committee in the House, has only had four hearings on Iraq contracting during this entire process.

In the other body, despite Senator LAUTENBERG's repeated requests, the Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs over there has not held a single hearing on this issue.

In the House Armed Services Committee, they have conducted oversight hearings on some issues related to military operations and protecting our troops, but they have not explored the issue of contracting since it was touched upon in June of 2004. That is quite a contrast with the original Truman Committee, which held 432 public hearings, 300 executive sessions, had 1,800 witnesses testify and issued 51 reports, all the while saving the taxpayer \$15 billion and saving countless lives in the process.

The Truman Committee was unanimously respected for its focus on fact-finding and its refusal to succumb to partisan consideration, and that is what this commission would do as well. It is needed, because last week a Federal jury found two employees of Custer Battles had cheated the government on a contract to provide Iraq with new currency, and some \$10 million in damages.

In December the Boston Globe reported that the Congressional Research Service put out a publication stating the Pentagon has not provided an overall reckoning of these funds by mission or by military operation. It went on to say that Congress has yet to receive a transparent accounting of money that is allocated so far for the war.

Kellogg, Brown & Root's employees last summer pleaded guilty of \$100,000 in kick-backs, and it recently was reported that KBR did not do its job under the contract with purification of water for our troops, leaving them in a dangerous situation over there.

The General Accountability Office has purported to have found that the Department of Defense officials and In-

terior officials charged with overseeing the contract to provide interrogators at Abu Ghraib did not fully carry out their roles. And in March of 2005, we learned that the Pentagon auditors found that \$212 million was paid to Kuwaiti and Turkish subcontractors for fuel and that overcharging was charged back by Halliburton.

We need this commission. It is the right thing to protect our troops and the storm victims. The American public deserves open and transparent government.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. FOLEY). The time of the gentleman has expired.

The gentlewoman from Ohio's time has expired as well.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word, and I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank the gentleman for the time. The reason I am on the floor, I am like anyone else in Congress. It is a privilege to serve in the United States House of Representatives. And every time I go home, like all other Members of Congress, and I see the people of the Third District of North Carolina, the home of Camp Lejeune, 60,000 retired military, they want to know why we are not doing a better job with oversight.

When you read in the papers that a DOD inspector says we cannot find \$8 billion, and yet here we are in the Congress owing \$8.2 trillion in debt, and the American people are out there working hard trying to do their best, they support our troops, they want us to support our troops.

But we have a responsibility, and that is to rebuild public trust. The public has lost faith in the Congress of meeting its responsibility for oversight. And I join the gentlewoman from Ohio and my other colleagues, and there are those on the Republican side too, that want to have an accountability to the American taxpayer.

It is time that we do so. So I ask my colleagues on both sides of the political aisle, for goodness sakes, let us support the American taxpayer. Let us do what Truman did, saying to the people during World War II, we are going to fight this war, and we are going to defeat the enemy, but we are going to do it in a wise way, we are going to protect the investment of the taxpayer.

Let's do the same thing in 2006 that he did during the 1940s. I thank the gentleman for this time, and I close by saying, let's do what is right. This is a good-government issue. It is time that we have accountability to the American people.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, with this bill, we will now have spent as much money in Iraq as we did in Vietnam. If you adjust for inflation, it is now just about the equivalent.

It seems to me that spending almost half a trillion dollars of the taxpayers' money is indefensible unless we are willing to see to it that that money is

spent as well as we can possibly accomplish that fact.

I guess it boils down to this: if Members are happy with reading day after day about stories that are published about waste and fraud and ripoffs by contractors in Iraq, if they are tired of reading about the insider deals and the single-source contracts for work to be done in Iraq, if a Republican-controlled Congress cannot bring itself to conduct a really vigorous investigation of a Republican administration, then they ought to vote "no."

But if you think that we ought to be doing now exactly as we were doing in World War II, when Harry Truman conducted the kind of investigation the gentleman from Massachusetts mentioned, if you think we ought to replicate that effort, then you vote "yes."

I would submit that the Roosevelt administration was not damaged by the investigations done by the Truman Committee, they were strengthened by it, because that meant they had more resources available to get the job done in defeating the Japanese and defeating the Nazis.

I want to congratulate the gentleman from Massachusetts for the leadership that he has shown on this issue.

Mr. Chairman, I urge an "aye" vote.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I make a point of order against the amendment because it proposes to change existing law and constitutes legislation in an appropriation bill and therefore violates clause 2 of rule XXI.

The rule states in pertinent part: an amendment to a general appropriation bill shall not be in order if changing existing law.

This amendment gives affirmative direction in effect.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Does any Member wish to speak on the point of order?

Hearing none, the Chair finds that this amendment includes language imparting direction. The amendment therefore constitutes legislation in violation of clause 2 of rule XXI.

The point of order is sustained and the amendment is not in order.

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MR. NADLER

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 10 offered by Mr. NADLER:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____ REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO ENTRY OF OCEAN SHIPPING CONTAINERS INTO THE UNITED STATES.

(a) REQUIREMENTS.—Section 70116 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO ENTRY OF OCEAN SHIPPING CONTAINERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An ocean shipping container may enter the United States, either directly or via a foreign port, only if—

“(A) the container is scanned with equipment that meets the standards established

pursuant to paragraph (2)(A) and a copy of the scan is provided to the Secretary, and

“(B) the container is secured with a seal that meets the standards established pursuant to paragraph (2)(B),

before the container is loaded on the vessel for shipment to the United States.

“(2) STANDARDS FOR SCANNING EQUIPMENT AND SEALS.—

“(A) SCANNING EQUIPMENT.—The Secretary shall establish standards for scanning equipment required to be used under paragraph (1)(A) to ensure that such equipment uses the best-available technology, including technology to scan a container for radiation and density and, if appropriate, for atomic elements.

“(B) SEALS.—The Secretary shall establish standards for seals required to be used under paragraph (1)(B) to ensure that such seals use the best-available technology, including technology to—

“(i) detect any breach into a container;

“(ii) identify the time and place of such breach;

“(iii) notify the Secretary of such breach before the container enters the Exclusive Economic Zone of the United States; and

“(iv) track the time and location of the container during transit to the United States, including by truck, rail, or vessel.

“(C) REVIEW AND REVISION.—The Secretary shall review and, if necessary, revise the standards established pursuant to subparagraphs (A) and (B) not less than once every two years.

“(D) DEFINITION.—In subparagraph (B), the term ‘Exclusive Economic Zone of the United States’ has the meaning given the term ‘Exclusive Economic Zone’ in section 2101(10a) of this title.”

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out section 70116(c) of title 46, United States Code, as added by subsection (a) of this section, such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007 and each subsequent fiscal year.

(c) REGULATIONS; EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) REGULATIONS.—

(A) INTERIM FINAL RULE.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall issue an interim final rule as a temporary regulation to implement section 70116(c) of title 46, United States Code, as added by subsection (a) of this section, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this section, without regard to the provisions of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code.

(B) FINAL RULE.—The Secretary shall issue a final rule as a permanent regulation to implement section 70116(c) of title 46, United States Code, as added by subsection (a) of this section, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code. The final rule issued pursuant to that rulemaking may supersede the interim final rule issued pursuant to subparagraph (A).

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The requirements of section 70116(c) of title 46, United States Code, as added by subsection (a) of this section, apply with respect to any ocean shipping container entering the United States, either directly or via a foreign port, beginning one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I reserve a point of order on the gentleman's amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's point of order is reserved.

Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER)

and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer an amendment to attach to this bill, the Sail Only If Scanned Act, the SOS Act. This act was developed by me and Mr. OBERSTAR, with the support of Minority Leader PELOSI, to address the issue of shipping container security.

This amendment would require that every shipping container be scanned with the most modern technology and sealed with a tamper-proof seal before it is placed on a ship bound for the United States so that we can have absolute assurances that no nuclear weapons or radiological bombs are being brought into our ports.

Only 1 percent of the more than 11 million shipping containers destined for the United States are scanned before they are loaded on a ship overseas. This is unacceptable.

The United States cannot own or control the entire global trade network, but we can and should ensure the security of every single container destined for this country. The controversy over the proposed Dubai Ports World deal has woken up the American people and made them think about how critical our ports are for national security. But who owns the ports and who operates the ports, while important, is far less important than what comes into the ports.

Ninety-five percent of all of the 11 million, 40-foot boxes that come into our ports are uninspected, not scanned. Not scanned by x-rays, not examined for radioactivity before they get here. Any one of them could have an atomic bomb or radiological bomb. That is unacceptable.

If there is a bomb inside a container, it is too late to discover that in Newark or Miami or Los Angeles. Reading the manifest is not enough. Having shipments only from low-risk shippers is not enough, because any one container could have a catastrophic bomb inside it.

My amendment is quite simple. It would require that all containers must be scanned using the best available technology, including scanning for radiation and density before they are loaded on a ship bound for the United States.

The scans must be submitted to U.S. Government officials for review before the container is loaded, and the containers must be sealed with a device that indicates if the container is tampered with in transit, and automatically notifies U.S. officials of any breach before the containers come within a few hundred miles of the United States.

Steve Flynn of the Council of Foreign Relations and a port security expert wrote in the New York Times a few days ago: “This is not a pie-in-the-sky idea. Since January 2005, every single container entering the truck gates of two of the world's busiest container

terminals in Hong Kong has passed through scanning and radiation detection devices. Images of the containers' contents are then stored on computers so they can be scrutinized by American or other customs authorities almost in real-time. Customs inspectors can then issue orders not to load a container that worries them. The Department of Homeland Security has greeted this private sector initiative with only tepid interest.”

Mr. Chairman, we cannot simply stand by while the Bush administration twiddles its thumbs and fails to secure the movement of containers before they reach the United States. The terminal operations in Hong Kong prove we can scan 100 percent of the containers without disrupting the economy or the flow of goods. The cost to scan a container is \$6.50.

The entire cost to amortize all of the equipment is \$20 a container. Given that it costs \$4,000 to ship a container across the Pacific if there is between 50 and \$500,000 worth of merchandise in each container, a \$20 cost is trivial.

Congress needs to make 100 percent scanning the policy of the United States. This amendment would do that. I realize, Mr. Chairman, this amendment may not be allowed under the rules of the House.

I fully expect the Republicans to raise a point of order against it. I would note, however, that the underlying bill includes a provision blocking the proposed takeover of U.S. terminals by Dubai Ports World. I support that provision.

But if we can include language on the Dubai deal in this bill, then certainly the Republican majority should allow us to include language that secures shipping containers and prevents atomic bombs from going off in port cities.

At the very least, they could easily waive the rule and allow a vote on this amendment. If they care more about these rules that they waive every day than they do about protecting the American public from nuclear bombs and shipping containers, I truly fear for our safety.

Mr. Chairman, I urge all my colleagues to support this amendment to attach the Sail Only if Scanned Act, the SOS Act, to this bill. The only way we will adequately protect our citizens is if the Republicans in Congress join with us to force the Bush administration to take seriously the issue of container security and make sure that every single container is scanned and sealed with a tamper-proof seal before being placed on a ship bound for the United States.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I make a point of order against the amendment because it proposes to change existing law and constitutes legislation on an appropriation bill and therefore violates clause 2 of rule XXI.

The rule states in pertinent part: an amendment to a general appropriations bill shall not be in order if changing existing law.

This amendment directly amends existing law.

□ 1545

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. FOLEY). Does any Member wish to speak on the point of order?

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Chairman, the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations raises a point of order that this legislates on an appropriations bill. And it might.

But I would challenge the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations and the Republican majority, if you are going to insist on a technical interpretation of the rule on this amendment, I would challenge the Republicans to allow this bill to the floor for a vote or allow this bill as an amendment on some other bill. Because to fail to do that, to insist on a technical reading of this rule, and not allow this or something like it on the floor, is to jeopardize the lives of every single American for a trivial cost. And I urge that the Republicans allow, we have been trying some version of this for 3 years now. We have never been able to get a vote. But the safety of the American people is at risk if we allow 11 million shipping containers, 40-foot boxes into the ports of our country without scanning them, and knowing only what someone says is in them, not what is really in them.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Chair is prepared to rule on the point of order.

The Chair finds that this amendment directly does amend existing law. The amendment, therefore, constitutes legislation in violation of clause 2 of rule XXI.

The point of order is sustained and the amendment is not in order.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. WAXMAN

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. WAXMAN:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____ None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be obligated or expended by the Secretary of the Army or his designee to award a contract to any contractor if the Defense Contract Audit Agency has determined that more than \$100,000,000 of the contractor's costs for contracts involving work in Iraq under one or more Army contracts were unreasonable.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognize the gentleman from California.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Three years ago, Congress and the American people were told that the Iraq War would be quick and inexpensive. Senior administration officials

told us that rebuilding Iraq would cost less than \$2 billion. And we were told that Iraq would be able to finance its own reconstruction with its oil revenues.

Well, 3 years later, we know that these assurances were completely unfounded. The war has cost hundreds of billions of dollars. We squandered over \$20 billion on reconstruction projects that have left basic services below pre-war levels. And these massive costs have contributed to record budget deficits at home.

There are multiple causes for the enormous burden placed on the taxpayer. President Bush and his advisors grossly underestimate the insurgency. They failed to engage our allies in the rebuilding effort, and they vastly overestimated the amount of oil Iraq could sell to fund its reconstruction.

The amendment I am offering with Mr. DINGELL addresses part of the problem, rampant waste, fraud and abuse in Federal contracting under the Bush administration. The largest contractor operating in Iraq is Halliburton. Government auditors have repeatedly caught Halliburton red-handed. They have found over a billion dollars in unreasonable and unsupported charges.

Let me repeat this. Federal auditors have found Halliburton's unreasonable and unsupported bills exceed \$1 billion. Yet over and over again, this administration has ignored its own auditors. The Pentagon's auditors have found over \$260 million in unreasonable and unsupported costs when they examine Halliburton's no-bid contract to restore Iraq's oil field.

Independent industry experts call Halliburton's charges "highway robbery." But as this chart shows, the Bush administration ignored these findings and paid Halliburton for 97 percent of its overcharges and then gave Halliburton millions in additional bonuses. These same Pentagon auditors rejected \$200 million in dining hall expenses because Halliburton charged for meals it never served to the troops. But the Bush administration ignored the auditors and paid 75 percent of the challenged costs and tripled Halliburton's profit on the contract.

The auditors got so frustrated with Halliburton that they warned Pentagon officials not to enter into any more contracts with the company. But 3 days later, the Bush administration gave Halliburton a new \$1.2 billion contract in Iraq. And these are not the only problems.

More than 50 cases of contract fraud in Iraq are currently under investigation. And administration officials cannot account for over \$8 billion in Iraqi oil proceeds. This kind of incompetent and egregious mismanagement is hard to believe. No matter how many times they bilk the taxpayer, politically favored companies keep getting more and more Federal contracts.

The administration has a duty to safeguard taxpayer dollars, but it is shirking that responsibility. We need

to pass this amendment to end this costly cycle.

This is an amendment that is very simple. It will prohibit the administration from using the funds in this bill to award new contracts to any company that has overcharged the government by \$100 million or more in Iraq.

This is just common sense. No company that squanders over \$100 million of taxpayers money should be rewarded with new contracts. If the administration will not protect the taxpayer against waste, fraud and abuse, the Congress must act. For the sake of the taxpayers and the troops, I urge support for this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, on the surface of this amendment, it is sort of interesting, because none of us want to see any money wasted or any money spent improperly. The problem that we have here, Mr. Chairman, is that we just got a copy of this amendment late last night and other Members only got it this morning. This could have very far reaching effects, not only on future contracts, but on existing contracts. And I would hate to see the logistical flow of supplies to our troops in the field interrupted because of this amendment.

Frankly, I was tempted to accept the amendment, but having thought about it, we just really have not had time to know exactly what the effect is going to be. So I rise to oppose the amendment and I would be happy to work with the gentleman as we proceed through this bill or the regular defense bill to try to work with him to accomplish what he wants, but we need to know what it is that this amendment does and it is a little bit complicated.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I want to assure you we were very careful in drafting this amendment. It is prospective. It would not affect the funding of existing contracts for troop support. They will continue untouched. The amendment simply says we will not reward companies with new contracts after they overcharge the taxpayers by \$100 million. I hope that will allay the gentleman's concerns.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Reclaiming my time, I thank the gentleman for his comments, but it is important that the defense committees know for a fact as opposed to the debate on the floor. So we have got to oppose the amendment at this time.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER), the very distinguished chairman of the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding. This is

aimed at the company Halliburton. That is very clear.

The papers are awash with Halliburton and have been for several years. Halliburton employs lots of Americans. And I do not have the exact number of KIA, but they, like our soldiers in the field, the people that drive those trucks and work those logistics to support our Marines out in the western area of operations out in Fallujah and our Army personnel out in Mosul and Tikrit and other remote parts of Iraq, those people risk their lives every day.

I will say to the gentleman, as I recall, over 20 of them have been killed in action, people like the Halliburton drivers. People have been captured by the enemy and some of them held hostage, unable to escape. Most of the people, the vast majority of the people that work for this contractor, like lots of contractors that support our American military overseas, are good, hard-working people. And if you look, if you go up and eat with the Stryker brigades up in Mosul, or the 101st in Tikrit or the Marines in Fallujah, and you go into their mess halls and you look at the operation and you see the fuel that is delivered, you see the ammunition that is delivered, you see the treatment, the quality of life for our military people, you will understand then that is primarily a result of American corporations which support the war effort. And that is a fact of life.

Now, the idea that prices have been unreasonable and that there are contracts where they have abused the American taxpayer or abused the contract process, let us take that under the regular order. And if that is true, let's hold people accountable. Let's hold the corporation accountable. But the idea that we single out a group of people which is thousands and thousands of Americans who support our fighting personnel and basically paralyze that operation is unreasonable.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

We have been working on this investigation about Halliburton for years, and we have written letters asking for hearings over and over again. The committee has not held a hearing on these overcharges. I do not know why the Armed Services Committee has not held a hearing on it, but it sounds to me a bit disingenuous when they say we have not had a chance to look at this matter.

I support hardworking people on the ground that are working for Halliburton and other private contractors, but I do not think they would support the idea of their own corporate CEOs and shareholders getting rich unfairly for charges that are not reasonable. That is what this amendment is all about.

So it seems to me that it rings a bit false when we hear these kind of arguments against the amendment. Oh, we

have not looked at it. Why haven't they looked at it? Oh, it might affect people serving the troops now. Well, that is just absolutely untrue.

So I continue to urge support for the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Chairman I thank the gentleman for yielding me time. I rise in support of the Waxman-Dingell amendment which is about waste, fraud and abuse. That is it. And this is the full extent of the amendment, eight lines, very simple.

All it says is that none of the funds appropriated or made available by this Act shall be obligated or expended by the Secretary of the Army to any contractor if the Defense Contract Audit Agency has determined that more than \$100 million of the contractor's costs for contracts involving work in Iraq under one or more Army contracts were unreasonable.

So we have set up a process to get rid of waste, fraud and abuse. How long does it take to figure that out?

I cannot imagine that anybody in this body wants to fund waste, fraud and abuse, particularly in excess of \$100 million. That is what this is about.

Last June, Congressman WAXMAN released a report documenting a stunning \$1.4 billion in questioned and unsupported charges by Halliburton in Iraq. Don't we want to know about that?

Last month, The New York Times reported that the Bush administration ignored 97 percent of the recommendations made by Pentagon auditors and awarded Halliburton over \$250 million under its Iraq oil contract. And just last week, a Federal jury found that another firm, Custer Battles, defrauded the government by millions of dollars under just one of its Iraq contracts.

□ 1600

So how does this Congress justify ignoring blatant stealing? Do we not all want to get at that? I mean, too many of our soldiers have been asked to do without proper body armor and equipment, and they come home to reduced benefits, and this Congress has found it easy enough to say no to our soldiers; and yet every single time we have been able to say yes to Halliburton.

Is it not time that all of us agree that it is wrong to have this kind of waste, fraud and abuse and to pass this simple amendment?

I urge a "yes" vote.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield an additional 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER), the distinguished chairman of the Armed Services Committee.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Let me just say to my colleagues here who have stated that we should hold up our contracts and not give new contracts until past contracts are

found to be reasonable versus unreasonable, Members have stood on this floor and have called every weapons system since the first Persian tank unreasonable in cost. The B-2 has been called unreasonable. Every ship in the navy has been called unreasonable in the cost. Every fighter aircraft has been called unreasonable in the cost.

The idea that you are not going to have any action on these contracts unless you have a congressional hearing is not true. There is no committee here that has the ability to enforce or not enforce a contract. You have dozens, in fact hundreds, of government lawyers who have every opportunity, indeed have the charge, of going through complex contracts, and where they find that the contract was violated by the contractor, and there are lots of contractors around who are bankrupt to attest to this, that that contract is then acted upon, damages are extracted; and all these are things that we have put in our system of laws.

Now, the idea that you are going to take a major part of the support of an ongoing shooting war and you are going to paralyze it and say, well, it is only for present contracts, the next one that comes up next month, that is going to be different, but you are going to allow present contracts to continue. That could mean that you have got a hiatus in capability, a hiatus in the expertise of these people who have gone out, wearing the uniform of American contractors, put themselves in harm's way and, over the last several years in this war, developed a real expertise.

So I know the gentleman's amendment may play well politically in some quarters, but I think it is bad for the men and women who wear the uniform of the United States because the contractors we are talking about are the people supporting them right now in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, the gentleman from California, the chairman of the Armed Services Committee, says that reasonableness is something that could be subjective. Some people think that certain weapons systems may not be reasonable. Well, reasonableness is not some vague standard we picked out of the air. It comes directly from section 31.201-3(a) of the Defense Contract Audit Agency's "Contract Audit Manual." That provision reads: "A cost is reasonable if, in its nature and amount, it does not exceed that which would be incurred by a prudent person in the conduct of competitive business."

Every government auditor knows this standard. It is a standard that the Pentagon's own auditors apply to Halliburton. It is the standard that was flouted by the Bush administration, and it is the standard that my amendment would reaffirm.

Now, this last argument, Halliburton's got an expertise and, therefore, they should get future contracts

because we may not be able to find someone else with the expertise, and, therefore, we should ignore overcharges, unreasonable charges in excess of \$100 million dollar in the past, that is an incredible argument. No matter how many times we may be the victims, or our taxpayers may be the victims, of waste, fraud and abuse, we should continue to pay? That is absurd.

Now, I just submit that we are following the very clear standard in the law, and our amendment does not plow any new ground, and I would urge support for the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, how much time do we have?

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). The gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) has 4 minutes remaining. The gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) has 30 seconds remaining.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 additional minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER).

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

One thing my distinguished friend from California (Mr. WAXMAN) has not shown us is how American laws, existing laws in contract, that govern the acquisition of systems and the acquisition of services, how those laws are not applicable to this American corporation, and so, therefore, we have to say, stop, we are not going to do anymore business with this corporation.

In fact, all the laws that go toward the enforcement of contracts and the contract itself, of course, are enforceable. Fines can be extracted. Other remedies can be extracted; and if there is, in fact, fraud, and I have heard the term "fraud" used in this debate, if there is fraud, that is a crime in contracting. If you commit crime in contracting, you can go to jail. There is no Member of this Chamber who, if a contract is broken between the United States Government and any of our contractors over there, there is no one in this Chamber who is going to say that we should not extract our full remedy under the laws we create and if people are involved in criminal action that they should not be prosecuted.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, \$40 for a case of soda, \$100 for a bag of laundry, torching an \$80,000 truck instead of replacing flat tires, charging 40 times more to transport fuel than reasonable, these are some of the things that Halliburton has been called to task for, not by Democrats, but by the auditors, the professional auditors at the Department of Defense; and they should have been penalized for doing that.

Now, what was, was; but let's don't in the future give them contracts to abuse us again.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman's time has expired.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gen-

tleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA), the very distinguished ranking member on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee.

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Chairman, I am nervous about the amendment. I am nervous because I am not sure, when we have got people out there making contracts for the troops out in the field, there is no question all of us want to take care of the fraud and abuse, all of us. Nobody's done more of a job than you have, the gentleman from California; but I get nervous when we are doing something prospectively. We are not sure of the impact.

I think we would have to change this in conference anyway because we just do not know enough about the impact. You assure us. They are worried about it. So I am very worried about this amendment. I think we would be better off letting the system take care of it. I think when you have fraud and abuse, it has got to be taken care of.

The Congress has the oversight responsibility, but I am not sure legislating for the future is going to solve the problem. That is the thing that worries me.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MURTHA. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, the system has failed because the Bush administration paid 97 percent of the charges that the Pentagon auditors found to be unreasonable. So our amendment is structured to apply in the future.

We will have a chance to continue to look at this. I feel comfortable that this is not going to jeopardize anything that is going on in Iraq today and certainly not the existing contracts such as the ongoing logistical contract which Halliburton still has; but for the future, if any company has overcharged by \$100 million, we should not be rushing out there and giving them a new contract.

Existing contracts are existing contracts. They should not be rewarded for that overcharging.

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Chairman, reclaiming my time, I just worry when we do something like this prospectively, we might affect what is going on in the field. None of us want to stop a contract for services to the troops in the field right now, and I think you agree with that.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, if the gentleman will yield, I respect that. I agree with you. That is why we were very careful in the way we drafted this amendment.

Mr. MURTHA. I know you believe that, but I would err on the side of trying to prevent it. So at this point I would be against the amendment.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of the time.

I would like to say that this is not about a particular company. This is about a policy change, a policy change

that we have not had any opportunity to review, with no hearings. We only learned about this amendment late last night, and it is a policy that should not be changed here on the floor without the benefit of some backup hearings and actual review.

Like I said, it sounds like a good idea; but we have just got to be sure. We do not want to interrupt the logistical flow of what our troops need to carry out their mission. There is a major mission under way in Iraq as we speak, Operation Swarmer, and it is the biggest air operation since the war started. We cannot afford to upset an ongoing operation like that.

We have got to support our troops, and if a policy change like this has a negative effect, that is just not good. It is not good for our troops. So I would hope we would oppose this amendment.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment to deny further awards of contracts to contractors that have been found by the Defense auditors to have billed the government for more than \$100 million in unreasonable costs.

From the moment Representative WAXMAN and I learned about secret no-bid contracts given to large companies like Halliburton in 2003, for activities in Iraq, we have tried to get the facts on the matter. And it has not been easy to get those facts.

In the course of our investigation, with the help of the Government Accountability Office, we have learned of some pretty terrible things. First, we found that Halliburton was importing oil into Iraq at extremely high prices. We were particularly concerned about the company's decision to import gasoline from Kuwait at a price far above market levels.

Eventually, Defense auditors agreed and found that there were \$263 million in unsupported and questioned costs in these contracts. Yet last month, the Corps of Engineers ignored their auditors and reimbursed Halliburton for \$254 million—all but \$9 million of the questioned costs.

This follows a pattern with Halliburton. The Defense auditors had previously questioned \$200 million in costs for meal services provided by the company, which again was overruled by the Army, which gave the company \$145 million.

This amendment to deny new contracts to companies that have a history of billing the government for questionable costs is hardly novel. In January, 2004, the Defense Contract Audit Agency itself recommended that the Corps not enter into new contracts with Halliburton, but 3 three days later the Army awarded Halliburton a new \$1.2 billion contract.

The amendment before us will ensure that taxpayer money will go to support the troops and help rebuild infrastructure and not fatten the pockets of contractors that have a history of questionable billing practices. I emphasize this amendment will not take any funds away from troop support, but will help support the troops.

It is an embarrassment that there have been virtually no Congressional hearings on the matter. Instead, we must act legislatively.

The best course of action to ensure that our money is going where it is needed in support of the troops is to put an end to future contracts with companies that are serial overchargers. Vote for this amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. VELÁZQUEZ

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____ (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to enforce a deadline described in subsection (b) under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)).

(b) Subsection (a) applies to any of the following deadlines:

(1) The deadline of April 10, 2006, for physical loan applications and the deadline of May 29, 2006, for economic injury disaster loan applications, as noticed by the Small Business Administration for Major Disaster Declaration numbers 1603 and 1604.

(2) The deadline of March 11, 2006, for physical loan applications and the deadline of May 29, 2006, for economic injury disaster loan applications, as noticed by the Small Business Administration for Major Disaster Declaration number 1605.

(3) The deadline of April 10, 2006, for physical loan applications and the deadline of June 26, 2006, for economic injury disaster loan applications, as noticed by the Small Business Administration for Major Disaster Declaration numbers 1606 and 1607.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As we all know, the recovery process in the gulf area continues to be ongoing. Victims are still digging out from debris, and many are unable to even get back to their homes and businesses. Unfortunately, these problems have been compounded by the failure of the SBA to provide disaster assistance to these victims.

I offer this amendment today to ensure that the thousands of homes and business owners in the gulf area are not unfairly denied the opportunity to file for a disaster loan. This amendment will give the victims of the hurricanes in the gulf the time they need to assess their situation and make informed decisions about applying for disaster loans.

Without this change, the SBA, by imposing an arbitrary deadline, will cre-

ate additional and unnecessary hardships on a group of people who have already suffered enough.

The SBA's failures are clearly documented. In response to the hurricanes in the gulf, the SBA issued 2.1 million applications to businesses, homeowners and individuals seeking financial assistance. As of just a few weeks ago, only 400,000 of these applications have been submitted to the SBA for processing. The balance of the applications, 1.7 million, or 80 percent, remain outstanding.

The reasons for these low return rates are plentiful. SBA has failed to supply the necessary assistance to fill out the massive application forms. Potential applicants are being incorrectly told that they are not eligible. On top of this, SBA has also failed to implement an outreach plan in communities to make eligible applicants aware of this program.

Rather than recognizing these problems, the SBA has set March 11 and April 10 application deadlines for physical injury loans, which are the main source of assistance for homes and businesses with physical damage. If these deadlines are maintained, it would have the effect of leaving many potential applicants without the ability to secure Federal financial assistance.

This amendment will make sure that SBA stays in the gulf until the job is done.

The failures of the SBA have already created unnecessary hardship and frustration in the gulf region. SBA has declined an unprecedented 65 percent of loans. The agency has a backlog of over 60,000 loans. SBA has a processing time of 80 days, nearly triple the normal time. All of these issues have created confusion and consternation among residents.

By voting for this amendment, we will make sure the victims of this disaster are not punished for the failures of our Federal Government. We cannot turn our back on these victims.

I urge a "yes" vote on this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1615

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The chairman of the Small Business Committee opposes this amendment, the chairman of the authorizing committee. This amendment keeps the application period for SBA disaster loans open indefinitely. This could expose the disaster loan program to waste, fraud, and abuse that would virtually be impossible for the SBA to accurately verify losses as more time elapses from when the hurricanes struck the gulf coast.

This amendment is also unnecessary because the administration has already had the ability to extend the application deadline, and has done so three times. So if they have the ability to do

it, and they have done it, and they have done it three times, and your authorizing chairman would oppose it, why would you want to do it? In fact, the deadline was just extended for another 30 days, to April 10, for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

So, if there was a need, the administration would do it again. If the gentlewoman wants to change the parameters of the disaster loans, she should work within her position and with the ranking member and come up with something that everyone could agree on.

In the interest of time, I would just say that I oppose the amendment. It can lead to a lot of problems.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 1 minute.

Let me just say that SBA, before we start talking about deadlines, we need to get SBA to process the 60,000 applications that are in backlog. They need to do a better job in educating people so that we can get more than 19 percent of the applications back.

They need to fix the system where they have been declining 60 percent of all the loans that have been submitted to SBA. They need to do the job before they pull out, and that is an excuse for them not to do the job.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WOLF. The administration has extended this several times.

Secondly, the gentlewoman seems to constantly be criticizing SBA at every turn. We are going to ask the National Academy for Public Administration, somebody, to find truth out here and then begin. If you constantly browbeat and it is not accurate, you should be careful when you say things, because words mean things.

The chairman was before our committee yesterday. And so what we are going to do is, we are going to ask the National Academy of Public Administration to take a look at all these charges that go back and forth, because if we are constantly attacking Federal employees in program after program after program, I mean words matter. We just can't use this institution to attack people.

This place has turned into a partisan pit and it is time to bring some objectivity. So what we are going to do, we are going to take all of your charges, all of your comments, all of your complaints, all of your criticisms, all your condemnations and ask the National Academy of Public Administration to look at it to find out some truth.

This is a bad amendment. You are on the authorizing committee. You could do it. If we are going to do everything here, why do we even need an authorizing committee?

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, how much time do I have remaining?

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). The gentlewoman has 90 seconds.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Well, let me just say this. Isn't it true that there are 60,000 applications in backlog? Isn't it true that 19 percent, only 19 percent have been processed? Isn't it true that there is 65 percent declined on loans approval?

This is not about partisanship, this is about victims who are suffering, who are losing their businesses, who are losing their jobs. This is what this amendment is all about.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Chairman, do I have the right to close?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Yes.

Mr. WOLF. Then I reserve the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentlewoman from New York has 1 minute remaining.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, in a hearing yesterday on the disaster loan program, we heard two different stories on this equation in the gulf. We heard from the SBA administrator who said that everything is great. He told the committee that they are processing record numbers of loans and that there are virtually no problems. At the same time, we have a small business owner, Patricia Smith, who came in from New Orleans and told her story.

She told the committee how she could not find a Federal official to help her apply for a loan and how she spent hours working through paperwork. She told us that it took months to hear back on the status of her loan and that she was wrongly denied. The woman also shared that there are thousands out there with the same story.

The view from Washington, and what is actually going on in the gulf coast region is very different. By extending the deadline for disaster loans, we will give victims the ability to assess their situation and make an informed decision about getting an SBA loan.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WOLF. How much time do I have, Mr. Chairman?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Virginia has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. WOLF. Several years ago, you said if we abolished the loan guarantees, the world would come to an end. We abolished them, and now the number of loans are up. They are at a record number.

So what we are going to do, and I think the body should know, we want the SBA to work well, we want them to make the loans, but if we are constantly hammering and criticizing and condemning and governing by press release we don't get very far. So what we are going to do is we are going to ask the National Academy of Public Administration, a nonpartisan group, to come in and look at the gentlewoman's charges and all these things and come back and give us an honest report so we will know. But if we are just harassing Federal employees and criticizing them

at every step of the way, we really don't accomplish very much.

And I would say that you did say, and I will submit for the record what you said about abolishing the loan guarantees, but by doing that, we saved the taxpayer about \$170 million. The loans are up. That was basically a subsidy for the bankers. The banking lobby wanted that and we took it away and now we saved the taxpayers money.

This is a bad amendment. Vote it down.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New York will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. VELÁZQUEZ

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____ None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to make or guarantee a loan under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) other than a loan for which the borrower is charged an interest rate in accordance with section 7(c)(5) of such Act, as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, while the House will begin debating the budget resolution in the coming weeks, this amendment offers the first vote on one of the initiatives introduced in the President's 2007 budget. This amendment provides Members the opportunity to send a clear message that victims of disasters should not be subject to additional and unnecessary burdens by the Federal Government.

Buried in the President's budget submission was a proposal to raise the interest rates on SBA's disaster loans. This initiative will eliminate the current caps on interest rates and allow for the SBA to charge higher rates on disaster loans. This could mean that interest rates go up by as much as 50 percent.

The end result will force those who had their homes or businesses destroyed to pay for our budget problems

here in Washington. I offer this amendment today to ensure that we stop this wrongheaded proposal in its tracks. It puts Congress on record making it clear that an attempt to create additional hardships on disaster victims will not be tolerated.

Given all the missteps by FEMA and SBA in the gulf, Congress should not be adding to the problems of those hit by a natural disaster. Findings by the General Accounting Office, various inspector generals and congressional panels have revealed the numerous ways the Federal Government has failed our citizens in the gulf. By supporting this amendment, Congress will be saying that we stand together in these difficult times.

I am a firm believer in balancing our spending priorities, but this proposal is beyond the pale. I find it hard to believe, particularly given all the wasteful spending in Washington, that the only place to find funding is on the backs of disaster victims. Whatever happened to compassionate conservatism?

The effect of the administration's proposal will mean increased costs by thousands of dollars for disaster victims. It is alarming that despite all the problems with the management of the disaster loan program the only change the President offered in his budget was to increase the cost on disaster victims.

We agree that changes need to be made to the disaster loan program, but this is not one of them. By voting for this amendment, Congress expresses its commitment to rejecting this bad idea. I urge a "yes" vote on this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment. This amendment has absolutely, positively, categorically nothing to do with an emergency supplemental bill that we are considering today. It is an attempt to stop a legislative proposal related to the fiscal year 2007 budget, which, as an authorizer, you will get to have that opportunity. And it will come out on the floor one way or the other, and the Congress will have the opportunity to vote on it.

The proposal will have to be considered by the committee. SBA cannot unilaterally make the changes. So the Congress should know that the authorizers in the Congress set the rate. It is not the administration. So we are going to have that opportunity when Mr. MANZULLO and the members, minority and majority, make it.

Lastly, it is not necessary and it will have no effect, because it is just simply an attempt to prejudge a proposal by the administration for next fiscal year, and that is not something that you would do in a supplemental. If you would do that in a supplemental bill, we should just abolish every other bill and put everything in a supplemental bill, because then everything is a supplemental.

So it is a bad amendment, and I urge you to vote "no."

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

I would simply note, given what the gentleman just said, that is exactly what we have done with Iraq. Every dollar of the Iraq war has been financed through a supplemental appropriation. That is the way the administration has been able to hide from the taxpayers the full long-term cost of this war. That is the way they have been able to avoid systematic oversight. They put it in a supplemental, and then it is a must-pass, hurry-up, piece-at-a-time operation. Eventually you get the whole pie, but you get it in pieces, and the public doesn't know what the total picture is.

So I would simply say that I was kind of amused by that comment because the administration is way ahead of all of us. They decided a long time ago that they are going to supplemental the Congress to death, and they put every possible dollar they can into supplementals. They have yet to spend \$1 in a regular defense appropriation bill for Iraq.

So I just find it interesting that one person is expected to live up to a standard that the administration itself won't live up to.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 1 minute.

Let me just say that this is a cornerstone of the President's budget for SBA, and I think it is important that Congress go on record on this issue, particularly for us Democrats. And what we are saying today is, it is a bad idea, and we need to make it clear from the beginning, from the start, that we want to balance the budget but not at the expense of disaster victims.

And that is exactly what we are doing with this amendment today. We must prevent any of these funds from being used for higher interest loans in disaster loans for victims. We have to make sure that if money is carried over, that it will not be used for higher interest loans that will impact disaster victims.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. How much time do I have remaining, Mr. Chairman?

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The gentleman has 1½ minutes.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment would ensure that the disaster loan program remains an affordable source of capital for those affected by future disasters. When the program works, it has served to create the public-private partnership that balances the needs of fiscal constraint and compassion for our fellow Americans.

The administration's proposal to raise interest rates on disaster loans

will simply leave the victims to fend for themselves.

□ 1630

In the end, it is in our best economic interest to get these communities back up and running and creating the jobs they have proven they can create. By voting "yes," we are telling the administration that raising interest rates on disaster loans is a bad idea and Congress will not support it. I urge a "yes" vote.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

We would like to work with your staff and have our staff sit down so we can ask NAPA questions that you think are important, issues like this and other issues. What we want to do is work with you, get the National Academy of Public Administration to answer these questions and so we can find out one way or the other. Would that be appropriate?

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WOLF. I yield to the gentleman from New York.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, I would be happy to do that; but I have to tell you, victims in the gulf region cannot wait until we have such a discussion, and that is why this amendment is important to be voted on today.

Mr. WOLF. But if there is something wrong with regard to the SBA, I think it is important to find that out and identify that with Mr. MANZULLO and ask any questions you want to have NAPA answer so we can put it together and finally get to the bottom.

I urge a "no" vote on the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. LEE

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. LEE:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to implement, administer, or enforce the termination of the hotel and motel emergency

sheltering program established by FEMA for families displaced by Hurricane Katrina and other hurricanes of the 2005 season.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS) each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This amendment is very simple. This amendment would prevent FEMA from evicting from hotels and motels the thousands of families who were affected by the hurricanes on the gulf coast last summer.

Mr. Chairman, 6 months ago, the entire world watched the wealthiest, most powerful country on Earth turn its back on those who couldn't afford to evacuate their homes in advance and during the hurricanes. People were left to fend for themselves on rooftops, trying to save their lives and the lives of their families.

We cannot sweep under the rug the faces and the images of those who were disproportionately abandoned by their government. Unfortunately, today, 6 months after the storm, the majority of these people are still fending for themselves. The people of New Orleans and the gulf coast have experienced more tragedy and more suffering in the last 6 months than anyone should have to face in a lifetime. It is bad enough that they suffered through one of the worst natural disasters in the history of United States, it is bad enough that they lost their homes and their jobs and their livelihoods, it is bad enough that they are suffering mental breakdowns, high suicide rates and high rates of post-dramatic stress. And it is bad enough the insurance companies are trying to dodge their obligations to pay out claims to property owners.

But now to add insult to injury, yesterday their own government, our government, ended payments for hotel and motel rooms for thousands of displaced Katrina evacuees. Where will all of these people go? We already have a huge homeless population in this country. Why are we creating a new generation of Katrina homeless?

This lacks morality and is about as low as you can go. What benefit does the Federal Government have in kicking people when they are down?

Today, the newspapers are filled with accounts of people who were kicked out of their rooms and have no place to go. There are reports of families piling their possessions out of hotels and motels and into trucks, but with nowhere to go. This is just disgraceful. What kind of a message do we send with these evictions? What do we say to the rest of the world? What does it say about our values and our priorities and really what we believe in terms of putting people first?

I believe we have to send a different message, and we can do that today. We

have to reject the actions of FEMA and this administration and prevent people from getting kicked out of their hotel and motel rooms.

By passing my amendment, we would block FEMA from using any money in this bill to evict people living in hotels and motels as a result of Hurricane Katrina. We should not allow FEMA to dump people on the streets. That is just plain wrong. That is all it is, it is wrong. That should not be done. This is unjust.

Let us help at least stabilize their lives and give them a safe place to sleep without worrying about being on the streets. Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in opposition to this amendment which would prohibit FEMA from terminating its hotel and motel emergency sheltering program. This language is overly restrictive. At its peak, FEMA had more than 85,000 hotel rooms rented per night. The current subsidized hotel-room population is 3,780 households with the vast majority being in Louisiana.

FEMA is now in the process of transitioning these remaining hotel/motel residents into more appropriate housing. We do not want families living in motels. We all want to see those families in a better environment, longer term housing solutions such as apartments and the like.

This transition will occur over the coming weeks. To date, over 2,500 have already been matched up against not-yet-ready temporary housing, trailers, apartments and the like. The remainders include hard-to-place individuals, the disabled and people like that; and FEMA will continue to provide hotel/motel assistance to those people until a suitable temporary housing solution is identified and prepared.

Members should be assured that people are not being thrown out in the streets. FEMA is working with families to place them in appropriate housing solutions. This amendment would keep in place a program in the long term that is not good for the recipients or anyone else. So I urge Members to vote against the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), who is a real leader and was down there helping people save their lives during this tragedy.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Chairman, I simply wanted to come down here and support the gentlewoman's amendment because yesterday 4,007 codes expired. We do not know where those people are. We do not know if they have housing. As a matter of fact, there are news reports this morning that are telling us there are people who have nowhere to go.

I thank the gentlewoman for attempting to send some direction to FEMA. It is shameful and outrageous what has happened with the poor victims of Hurricane Katrina. From the time they started with the shelters until now, they have not come up with a reasonable program by which to provide housing.

I thank the gentlewoman for everything she has done, and I simply hope we can get support for this amendment so that the \$88 billion that we have appropriated to deal with this catastrophe can be used. I know FEMA has used 25 percent of this money on administrative costs. That is outrageous. We want that money to be used to provide shelter to the people who need it.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

This issue speaks to who we are as a country. We know there are people living on the streets, and we know there are people who have been really just played around with in terms of you have to evict, you do not. You have 5 more days; you have 10 more days. You have to call this number and get a voucher. Maybe we will extend it another week; maybe it will be 2 weeks. The deadline is tomorrow.

What in the world are these people supposed to do, Mr. Chairman? I think until we fix this where everybody has decent transitional housing, we should just say "no" to evictions. That is what this is about. "No" to evictions to people who have already been traumatized and hurt.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Chairman, it is not true that the time is up. Eligible Hurricane Katrina victims with no other housing means may be eligible for 3 months' worth of housing assistance. And the deadline application for individual assistance has been extended until April 11. So I would urge defeat of this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chairman announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. LEE

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Ms. LEE:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. —. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Government

of the United States to enter into a basing rights agreement between the United States and Iraq.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Wednesday, March 15, 2006, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) and a Member opposed each will control 15 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First, I would like to thank the gentleman from Maine (Mr. ALLEN) for working with me on this amendment and for his leadership and for being here to speak on this today.

This amendment is not about the war, although I offered an alternative to keep us out of Iraq when this war began. This amendment is not about bringing our troops home, although I believe we should do that and do it right away.

This amendment is not about holding the President accountable for misleading us into an unjust and unnecessary war, although he should.

Mr. Chairman, the amendment I am offering is very simple. It would provide that no funds would be used under this bill to enter into military base agreements between the United States and Iraq. Stating this will clearly indicate that the United States has no intention of making military bases permanent.

Mr. Chairman, can't we all agree on that right here and now, that we should not be in Iraq permanently? Unfortunately, this administration's position is unclear.

The President shares our views and said as much, I thought. On April 13, 2004, President Bush said, "As a proud and independent people, Iraqis do not support an indefinite occupation, and neither does America."

But just yesterday, General Abizaid, the general in charge of U.S. troops in Iraq, told a Defense Appropriations Committee that the U.S. could end up having bases in Iraq. So I think we need to be clear. The aim of my amendment is to simply codify the sentiment that the President and many of our constituents and many of us strongly believe here.

As we stand here today, the United States has renewed a bombing campaign against the insurgents, the largest assault since the invasion; and this is taking us in exactly the wrong direction. Destroying villages in the hopes of routing out insurgents only creates more insurgents.

In adopting this amendment, we can take the target off our troops' backs by sending a strong and immediate signal to the Iraqi people, the insurgents, and the international community that the United States has no designs on Iraq.

This very simple point is supported by a poll conducted by the University of Maryland's Program on International Policy Attitudes earlier this year. They found that 76 percent of Iraqis believe that the United States

will maintain bases in Iraq permanently even if the newly elected government asks the United States to leave Iraq.

Mr. Chairman, we need to be on record that we must not have permanent military bases in Iraq. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1645

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition. I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maine (Mr. ALLEN).

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me the time and also for her leadership on this issue. She and I both have bills to make U.S. policy that there be no permanent military bases in Iraq; and that is what we are, an amendment to that effect is here today. It reads that none of the funds made available under this act may be used by the government of the United States to enter into a basing rights agreement between the United States and Iraq.

It is true that the administration is unclear on this. Secretary Rumsfeld has said we have no plans or no discussions under way to have permanent bases in that country. But I just got off the phone with a reporter from Maine who said his son served there and those aren't temporary bases that we have there.

General Casey has said that we should gradually reduce the visibility of coalition forces across Iraq because that would take away one of the elements that fuels the insurgency.

What we have learned in a very painful way is that the opinions of other people matter. The opinions of the Iraqis matter. They believe we came there to take their oil, and they believe that we are going to stay there permanently. We have to make an official U.S. policy that we will not stay in Iraq on a permanent basis, that we are going to withdraw our troops, that we will not have military bases there; and that will help diminish somewhat the insurgency that is raging there today.

Just last week General Abizaid testified that the United States may still wish to maintain a long-term presence in the region. It is that kind of confusion, those kinds of mixed signals that we need to clear up with this amendment today.

The Zogby poll recently indicated that 70 percent of American troops believe we should be out of Iraq within the year. Our troops deserve to be told that we are not going to stay. The Iraqis need to be assured that we are not going to say, and this amendment is the path to that result.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY).

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Chairman, I am proud to cosponsor the Lee amend-

ment to prohibit any funds from the supplemental from being used to enter into a basing rights agreement between the United States and Iraq. It is clear that the Iraqis, Shiites and Sunnis alike, in overwhelming numbers, do not want us to stay there. And the Secretary of Defense has said that there are no plans or discussions under way to have permanent bases in that country. So this would codify that. This would make sure that that is true.

And yet it has been suggested by top military leaders, including General John Abizaid, as recently as this week, that the United States may want to keep a long-term military presence in Iraq. If true, this is a scheme fraught with danger. As anyone knows that watches television or reads the paper, the presence of U.S. troops in Iraq has been a powerful recruiting tool for the Iraqi insurgency. And General George Casey has agreed with that, saying that by getting our troops out of there that we would take away one of the elements that fuels the insurgency. Please support this amendment. It is good for our troops and good for our country and theirs.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS).

(Mr. CONYERS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen of the House, this is a great opportunity in the amendment brought forward by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE). The reason this is a good opportunity, it gets to the heart of what is tearing us apart and preventing us from being as effective as we could in the Middle East. The best way to do that is to clearly express, by statute, the fact that we are not there to build military permanent bases. And the reason is that when we do that we will alleviate a lot of the problem and suspicions that currently exist.

Join us in this bipartisan effort to make sure that American intentions in the Middle East are for the first time explicitly stated by law.

Ms. LEE. I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KUCINICH).

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Chairman, in December 2004, I requested the Congressional Research Service to compile a report on military construction in both Iraq and Afghanistan. On April 11, 2005, I received the final report. Here is what it said: the Congressional Research Service found projects that suggest a longer term U.S. presence in Iraq. These included \$214 million for the Balad Air Base and \$49 million for the Taji military complex.

This is the first congressional report that identified specific locations in Iraq where the U.S. is possibly constructing a permanent military presence in Iraq. At the appropriate time, I will enter this in the RECORD.

Now I want to know, did anyone here vote to establish permanent bases in

Iraq when they voted to invade that country? Did anyone here vote to send U.S. troops permanently to Iraq? Weren't we going to war on the belief Iraq had weapons of mass destruction? Weren't we going to war on the belief that Iraq was an imminent threat of a mushroom cloud the administration warned about? All that proved to be false. If the President had told you he wanted to spend over \$300 billion and 2,300 American lives, plus tens of thousands of maimed servicemembers to build new military bases, permanent deployment of U.S. troops in the Mesopotamian Valley, would anyone here have supported that? I don't think so.

That is why this administration had to fabricate a pretense for the invasion, and that is why you have to support the Lee amendment today. Do not allow this ill-conceived war to lead to a permanent deployment of troops in Iraq. Bring them home. Close down those bases.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HARMAN).

(Ms. HARMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Chairman, this month marks the third anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Iraq. Our troops, who have performed heroically, want to finish their mission and return home.

Success in Iraq depends on true power-sharing, and that will not happen so long as Iraqis suspect that the United States will maintain permanent military bases. That is why I strongly support the Lee amendment, which will send a clear signal to the Iraqi people that the United States does not seek a permanent presence.

Mr. Chairman, I have spoken to the President, the Vice President, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff about this. Statements by Secretary Rumsfeld alone are not sufficient. Only when the President makes clear that we intend to leave Iraq, not to referee a civil war, will Iraqis realize that power-sharing is their best and last hope.

I thank my good friend, Congresswoman LEE, for introducing this important amendment, and I thank her for her courageous stands all the time in the House.

Ms. LEE. I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, this is an important statement that we are making. And again I am sure that we will experience ridicule because I will stand here and say that I believe that the troops have done their job, their patriotic job, the job of defending America. They have won the victory, and it is time for them to come home.

We must redeploy our troops. And for all of those who say that many of us do not have a plan, we do. And that plan incorporates the gentleman's amendment, and I thank her for her leadership, and that is that we want to redeploy and we want to vest in Iraq and the Iraqi people and soldiers the defense of their nation. Therefore, we want to insure that there will be no basing rights between the United States and Iraq, no permanency, no establishing of our obligation to defend and defend and defend.

We just had a debate about avoiding the eviction of thousands of Americans from places where they are living because they have no place to live because of the hurricane disaster. It is time now to redeploy. We do have a plan for Iraq to control their government and to be able to defend themselves and to bring our troops home and to disestablish any relationship of a base in Iraq.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE).

(Mr. PRICE of North Carolina asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Lee amendment prohibiting the use of funds to establish permanent American bases on Iraqi soil. We must make clear to the Iraqi people and to the American people that our operations in Iraq are not open-ended and that we have no designs on Iraqi oil and territory.

Earlier this week, in a hearing of the Military Quality of Life and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee, I asked General John Abizaid, the top American general in the Middle East, if he could make an unequivocal commitment that the U.S. does not intend to establish permanent bases in Iraq. His answer was that he could not.

Two days after our Ambassador to Iraq said that the U.S. has, "no goal of establishing permanent bases in Iraq," General Abizaid said that the policy on long-term presence in Iraq had not been formulated. Three years into this war, if administration officials cannot make up their minds and articulate a coherent policy, it is time that Congress did it for them. Support the Lee amendment.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from California (Ms. WATERS).

Ms. WATERS. Mr. President, we need a sign. The American people believed you when you told us that you had to have a preemptive strike because there were weapons of mass destruction. There were no weapons of mass destruction.

You told us we would be welcome, our soldiers would be welcome with open arms. They are not welcome with open arms. The Sunnis, the Shiites and the Kurds all want to end this occupation. They want us out of there.

Mr. President, you told us that the oil that you would pump from the oil

wells in Iraq would pay for the rebuilding of Iraq. They are pumping less oil now than they were before the war.

You claimed that you were training soldiers to take over the security of the country. But we are finding bodies every day. In the last 2 days, there were 85 bodies found. In the last couple of weeks, there have been over 2,000 bodies found. The civil war has begun. The IEDs are exploding every day.

And Mr. President, you said that you would redeploy. We need you to give us a sign. All of those people who support him, you need to give us a sign. You can do that with this amendment by simply supporting the Lee amendment that will not allow for permanent bases. You have let us down on everything else. You can do this one. Support the Lee amendment. No permanent bases in Iraq.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Northern California (Ms. WOOLSEY).

Ms. WOOLSEY. Every single Member of Congress should be able to support this amendment, unless, of course, the goal is to have permanent presence in Iraq. We can demonstrate to the Iraqi people that we won't occupy their country indefinitely by voting "yes" today.

In fact, the Iraqi insurgency is largely incited by the very fact that after 3 full years of war, we show no intention of leaving. Our military presence must end. We must bring our troops home. We must give Iraq back to the Iraqi people. And in so doing, no permanent bases and no control over their oil.

Mr. Chairman, ending the war and helping the Iraqi people get back on their feet is absolutely possible, and it must start now. We can start this process by making a strong statement that the United States of America has no plan to maintain a permanent military presence in Iraq.

I urge all of my colleagues vote for the Lee-Allen amendment.

□ 1700

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY).

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Chairman, I want to express my appreciation to the gentleman from California for this amendment, which prevents funding for permanent bases in Iraq, and also because it draws our attention to other consequences.

One is the tragic occupation, which has been going on in Iraq now for almost 3 years, and the consequences of that tragic occupation, which has been endorsed and supported by this Congress over and over again. It also draws our attention to the rationale for the invasion of Iraq and the subsequent occupation, a rationale which was presented to this Congress and to the American people in the most fraudulent and deceitful way.

It draws attention to the fact that it is a criminal violation of Federal law to present false and misleading infor-

mation to the Congress in order to get them to take action. Most importantly, it draws our attention to the fact that the Congress has done nothing about it. We are now facing the third anniversary of the invasion and subsequent occupation of Iraq, and we must face the fact that this Congress has failed in its obligations and responsibilities to oversee the executive branch.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. POE). The gentleman from California has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, let me ask the gentleman a question on my time.

Do you know how many additional speakers you may have?

Ms. LEE. I believe Mr. HINCHEY needs another minute and Mr. MORAN needs 1½ minutes.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Frankly I will be glad to yield to the two of them some of my time and I presume that you might want to use the last minute to close and we can close this up.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 1½ minutes to my colleague from the committee.

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend from the Appropriations Committee and my good friend from California. I want my colleagues to consider some facts.

One is with this amendment that we will have now spent as much as we did in the entire Vietnam War. Does anybody think that that \$400 billion was well spent in retrospect? Consider the fact that 82 percent of the Sunnis and 69 percent of the Shi'a want us to withdraw immediately. In fact, the majority say that our presence is hurting rather than helping Iraq's future. Consider what happened when the British concluded their occupation.

The first people the Iraqis went after were those who cooperated with the British, considering them collaborators. Then they went after the foreigners that were trying to exploit the situation. We have a responsibility to get those foreign terrorists, al-Zarqawi and all of the al-Qaeda.

But the Iraqi people were never a threat to the United States. They are not now. Let us work with the Iraqis, get rid of the foreign terrorists, but not establish any permanent bases in Iraq.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I will just close by thanking you, Mr. LEWIS, for giving us time and for allowing for those who have a real perspective, the passion, the understanding to speak on this issue tonight. It is so important that the country understand that whether we agreed or disagreed with the war, that many of us believe there should be no permanent presence in Iraq.

We support our troops. We want them out of harm's way. We know that any notion of a permanent occupation or permanent bases continues to put our young men and women in harm's way. It is about time now that these signals be clear to the rest of the world. As I

said, we get mixed signals from the administration.

I think it is now the time for this House to say that whatever we believed, when this war started, we do not want to be a permanent occupying force, and we do not want permanent military bases in Iraq.

Thank you for being so generous, Mr. LEWIS.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, in the time I have spent in and around Iraq I have seen a fabulous facility at Camp Doha that is meeting most of our challenges in the region. I see it developing significantly in the future. I don't see a need for a permanent facility in Iraq. I doubt there will even be a suggestion of that. On the other hand, I think the discussion was very healthy.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the amendment offered by my distinguished colleague from California.

When the president took our country to war, he promised that victory would be swift and that our troops would not stay in Iraq one day longer than necessary.

Three years and 300 billion dollars later, with over 2,300 American soldiers dead and more than ten thousand wounded, victory is nowhere in sight.

The president and vice president, the secretary of defense and high ranking generals have continued to assure the American people that our presence in Iraq is temporary.

Yet, at the same time, the Department of Defense is paying Halliburton subsidiary Kellogg Brown and Root billions of dollars to build 14 "enduring" bases in Iraq.

The Iraqis see what is happening on the ground, and they haven't fallen for the Administration's misrepresentation.

According to recent opinion polls, a large majority of Iraqis believe that the U.S. military has no intention to leave Iraq, and that it would stay even is asked by the Iraqi government to leave.

The presence of American troops is fueling the insurgency in Iraq, as acknowledged by General Casey and numerous other experts, and is helping terrorist recruiters build their numbers across the globe.

Mr. Chairman, we cannot afford to continue sending these mixed signals.

If we want to build the Iraqis' confidence about our intentions in their country, if we want to stop adding fuel to the fire of insurgency and terrorism, we must clarify our intent.

Because the Administration is unable to send a clear message about America's intentions in Iraq, Congress must take this responsibility.

We must make our policy of no permanent bases explicit by force of law.

Mr. Chairman, the concern raised in the gentelady from California's amendment is the same concern that has determined my vote on the underlying bill. The Administration and the majority in this body continue to evade the question of how long we will remain in Iraq, and how much we plan to spend on this war.

It is with deep regret that I vote against passage of this supplemental.

Since Hurricane Katrina wrought havoc on our Gulf coast, I have decried the federal government's stingy approach to aid and reconstruction.

I have joined with my colleagues for years in urging the Administration to provide more funding for veterans' benefits.

I fully support increased LIHEAP funding, as well as aid to Liberia and Sudan.

But, Mr. Chairman, I will not be held hostage by the majority's cynical two-step trick to ensure continued funding for their failed policy in Iraq.

The majority continues to separate Iraq funding from the overall defense budget so that they can hide the true cost of the war and then force the Congress to pass these so-called "emergency" supplemental appropriations.

And the majority has bundled this war appropriation with funding for numerous important programs that we all favor, in order to force the legislation through and do an end run around real debate.

I am a Korean War veteran. I support our troops as much as anyone in this body, but I do so by advocating redeployment out of Iraq as soon as it can be safely done. I would vote any time for additional funds to pay for such safe redeployment. For this reason I have signed on to the proposal of my colleague Mr. MCGOVERN, H.R. 4232, the End of the War in Iraq Act.

Mr. Chairman, this vote is not about "supporting the troops." This bill is just one more attempt to tie the Congress' hands by forcing us to give up our only means of control over the war, the power of the purse. I will not be blackmailed into approving funding for an open-ended continuation of our participation in hostilities in Iraq. If the Congress acquiesces on this vote, it is in effect agreeing to fund this disastrous policy for as long as this Administration sees fit. From all indications, no end is in sight.

Mr. Chairman, the price for continuing this war is too high, not only in budgetary terms, but in American lives, Iraqi civilian casualties blamed on America and in the steady increase in the terrorist ranks that this war is provoking around the globe.

The American taxpayers should not have to send one more penny on the Administration's Iraq misadventure. Let's give our troops the supplies they need to get out of Iraq safely. Let's bring our troops home.

Mr. LEWIS of California. I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE).

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana.

Mr. JEFFERSON. Mr. Chairman, I seek time to enter into a colloquy with the gentleman from California and the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. Chairman, the rules prevent us from offering an amendment to the underlying bill to address health problems arising in the aftermath of Katrina. Thus I thank the gentleman for yielding the time to enter into a colloquy with the gentleman from California (Mr. LEWIS), chairman of the Appropriations Committee, who has worked very hard on Katrina issues, and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr.

OBEY) who has likewise been a stalwart supporter of those of us who are working so hard to bring our region back.

Mr. Chairman, rebuilding the Medical Center of Louisiana at New Orleans as a comprehensive public health hospital is a number 1 priority for public health and health care infrastructure of New Orleans since Katrina. Compared to most cities, New Orleans has a large percentage of poor and unhealthy residents.

Mr. Chairman, this perspective is not shared by FEMA. To date, FEMA has authorized \$23 million out of \$258 million requested. I thank the gentleman very much for permitting me to enter into this colloquy.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Chairman, I would just say I am very happy to work with the gentleman to try to deal with the problem.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, further, I look forward to working with both the gentlemen and am anxious to do everything we can to make this thing work as we deliver aid and support to the people in and around New Orleans.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Are there any further amendments?

SEQUENTIAL VOTES POSTPONED IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to clause 6 of Rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment by Mr. WAXMAN of California.

The first amendment by Ms. VELÁZQUEZ of New York.

The second amendment by Ms. VELÁZQUEZ of New York.

Amendment by Ms. LEE of California.

Under the previous order of the House of today, the Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. WAXMAN

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 193, noes 225, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 60]

AYES—193

Abercrombie	Bean	Blumenauer
Ackerman	Becerra	Boswell
Allen	Berkley	Boucher
Andrews	Berman	Boyd
Baca	Berry	Bradley (NH)
Baird	Bishop (GA)	Brady (PA)
Baldwin	Bishop (NY)	Brown (OH)

Brown, Corrine	Jackson (IL)	Payne	Kennedy (MN)	Ney	Sensenbrenner	[Roll No. 61]		
Butterfield	Jackson-Lee	Pelosi	King (IA)	Northup	Sessions	AYES—201		
Capps	(TX)	Peterson (MN)	King (NY)	Norwood	Shadegg			
Capuano	Jefferson	Platts	Kingston	Nunes	Shaw	Abercrombie	Grijalva	Oberstar
Cardin	Johnson, E. B.	Pomeroy	Kirk	Nussle	Shays	Ackerman	Gutierrez	Obey
Cardoza	Jones (OH)	Price (NC)	Kline	Osborne	Sherwood	Allen	Harman	Olver
Carnahan	Kennedy (RI)	Rahall	Knollenberg	Otter	Shuster	Andrews	Herse	Ortiz
Carson	Kildee	Rangel	Kolbe	Oxley	Simpson	Baca	Higgins	Owens
Case	Kilpatrick (MI)	Reyes	Kuhl (NY)	Pearce	Smith (NJ)	Baird	Hinchey	Pallone
Chabot	Kind	Ross	LaHood	Pence	Smith (TX)	Baldwin	Hinojosa	Pascrell
Chandler	Kucinich	Rothman	Larson (CT)	Peterson (PA)	Sodrel	Barrow	Holden	Pastor
Clay	Langevin	Roybal-Allard	Latham	Petri	Souder	Bean	Holt	Paul
Cleaver	Lantos	Ruppersberger	LaTourette	Pickering	Stearns	Becerra	Honda	Payne
Clyburn	Larsen (WA)	Rush	Lewis (CA)	Pitts	Sullivan	Berkley	Hooley	Pelosi
Conyers	Leach	Salazar	Lewis (KY)	Poe	Tancred	Berman	Hoyer	Peterson (MN)
Cooper	Lee	Sánchez, Linda	Linder	Pombo	Taylor (NC)	Berry	Inslee	Pomeroy
Costello	Levin	T.	LoBiondo	Porter	Terry	Bishop (GA)	Israel	Porter
Cramer	Lewis (GA)	Sanchez, Loretta	Lucas	Price (GA)	Thomas	Bishop (NY)	Jackson (IL)	Price (NC)
Crowley	Lipinski	Sanders	Lungren, Daniel	Pryce (OH)	Thornberry	Blumenauer	Jackson-Lee	Rahall
Cuellar	Lofgren, Zoe	Schakowsky	E.	Putnam	Tiahrt	Boswell	(TX)	Rangel
Cummings	Lowey	Schiff	Mack	Ramstad	Tiberi	Boucher	Jefferson	Reyes
Davis (AL)	Lynch	Schwartz (PA)	Manzullo	Regula	Towns	Boyd	Jindal	Ross
Davis (FL)	Maloney	Scott (GA)	Marchant	Rehberg	Turner	Brady (PA)	Johnson, E. B.	Rothman
Davis (TN)	Markey	Scott (VA)	McCaul (TX)	Reichert	Upton	Brady (TX)	Jones (NC)	Roybal-Allard
DeFazio	Marshall	Serrano	McCotter	Renzi	Visclosky	Brown (OH)	Jones (OH)	Ruppersberger
DeGette	Matheson	Sherman	McCrery	Reynolds	Walden (OR)	Brown, Corrine	Kanjorski	Rush
Delahunt	Matsui	Simmons	McHugh	Rogers (AL)	Walsh	Butterfield	Kaptur	Sabo
DeLauro	McCarthy	Skelton	McKeon	Rogers (KY)	Wamp	Capps	Kildee	Salazar
Dingell	McCollum (MN)	Slaughter	Mica	Rogers (MI)	Weldon (PA)	Capuano	Kilpatrick (MI)	Sánchez, Linda
Doggett	McDermott	Smith (WA)	Miller (FL)	Rohrabacher	Weller	Cardin	Kind	T.
Emanuel	McGovern	Snyder	Miller (MI)	Ros-Lehtinen	Westmoreland	Cardoza	Kucinich	Sanchez, Loretta
Engel	McIntyre	Solis	Miller, Gary	Royce	Whitfield	Carnahan	Langevin	Sanders
Eshoo	McKinney	Spratt	Mollohan	Ryan (WI)	Wicker	Carson	Lantos	Schakowsky
Etheridge	McNulty	Stark	Murphy	Ryun (KS)	Wilson (SC)	Case	Larson (CT)	Schiff
Farr	Meehan	Strickland	Murtha	Sabo	Wolf	Chandler	Lee	Schwartz (PA)
Fattah	Meek (FL)	Stupak	Musgrave	Saxton	Young (AK)	Clay	Levin	Scott (GA)
Filner	Meeks (NY)	Tanner	Myrick	Schmidt	Young (FL)	Cleaver	Lewis (GA)	Scott (VA)
Fitzpatrick (PA)	Melancon	Tauscher	Neugebauer	Schwarz (MI)		Clyburn	Lipinski	Serrano
Foley	Michaud	Taylor (MS)				Conyers	Lofgren, Zoe	Sherman
Frank (MA)	Millender-	Thompson (CA)	Boren	Ford	Ryan (OH)	Cooper	Lowey	Skelton
Gerlach	McDonald	Thompson (MS)	Davis (CA)	Hastings (FL)	Shimkus	Costa	Lynch	Slaughter
Gonzalez	Miller (NC)	Tierney	Davis (IL)	McHenry	Sweeney	Cramer	Maloney	Smith (WA)
Gordon	Miller, George	Udall (CO)	Duncan	McMorris	Weldon (FL)	Crowley	Markey	Snyder
Green, Al	Moore (KS)	Udall (NM)	Evans	Radanovich		Cuellar	Marshall	Solis
Green, Gene	Moore (WI)	Van Hollen				Cummings	Matheson	Spratt
Grijalva	Moran (KS)	Velázquez				Davis (AL)	Matsui	Stark
Gutierrez	Moran (VA)	Wasserman				Davis (FL)	McCarthy	Strickland
Harman	Nadler	Schultz				Davis (TN)	McCollum (MN)	Stupak
Herse	Napolitano	Waters				DeFazio	McCrery	Tanner
Higgins	Neal (MA)	Watson				DeGette	McDermott	Tauscher
Hinchey	Oberstar	Watt				Delahunt	McGovern	Taylor (MS)
Hinojosa	Obey	Waxman				DeLauro	McIntyre	Thompson (CA)
Holden	Olver	Weiner				Dicks	McKeon	Thompson (MS)
Holt	Ortiz	Wexler				Dingell	McKinney	Tierney
Honda	Owens	Wilson (NM)				Doyle	McNulty	Towns
Hooley	Pallone	Woolsey				Edwards	Meek (FL)	Udall (CO)
Hoyer	Pascrell	Wu				Emanuel	Meeks (NY)	Udall (NM)
Inslee	Pastor	Wynn					Melancon	
Israel	Paul							

NOES—225

Aderholt	Chocola	Gilchrest
Akin	Coble	Gillmor
Alexander	Cole (OK)	Gingrey
Bachus	Conaway	Gohmert
Baker	Costa	Goode
Barrett (SC)	Crenshaw	Goodlatte
Barrow	Cubin	Granger
Bartlett (MD)	Culberson	Graves
Barton (TX)	Davis (KY)	Green (WI)
Bass	Davis, Jo Ann	Gutknecht
Beauprez	Davis, Tom	Hall
Biggert	Deal (GA)	Harris
Bilirakis	DeLay	Hart
Bishop (UT)	Dent	Hastings (WA)
Blackburn	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hayes
Blunt	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hayworth
Boehlert	Dicks	Hefley
Boehner	Doolittle	Hensarling
Bonilla	Doyle	Herger
Bonner	Drake	Hobson
Bono	Dreier	Hoekstra
Boozman	Edwards	Hostettler
Boustany	Ehlers	Hulshof
Brady (TX)	Emerson	Hunter
Brown (SC)	English (PA)	Hyde
Brown-Waite,	Everett	Inglis (SC)
Ginny	Feeney	Issa
Burgess	Ferguson	Istook
Burton (IN)	Flake	Jenkins
Buyer	Forbes	Jindal
Calvert	Fortenberry	Johnson (CT)
Camp (MI)	Fossella	Johnson (IL)
Campbell (CA)	Fox	Johnson, Sam
Cannon	Franks (AZ)	Jones (NC)
Cantor	Frelinghuysen	Kanjorski
Capito	Gallegly	Kaptur
Carter	Garrett (NJ)	Keller
Castle	Gibbons	Kelly

NOT VOTING—14

Ford	Ryan (OH)
Hastings (FL)	Shimkus
McHenry	Sweeney
McMorris	Weldon (FL)
Radanovich	

□ 1732

Messrs. CALVERT, GARRETT of New Jersey, LARSON of Connecticut, GOODE, TOWNS and SAM JOHNSON of Texas changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Messrs. CAPUANO, MEEK of Florida and GRIJALVA changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for: Mr. DAVIS of California. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 60 on the Waxman amendments to H.R. 4939, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

Stated against: Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall No. 60 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. VELÁZQUEZ
The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. POE). The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote. The Clerk will redesignate the amendment. The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE
The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered. The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 201, noes 213, not voting 18, as follows:

Aderholt	Brown-Waite,	DeLay
Akin	Ginny	Dent
Alexander	Burgess	Diaz-Balart, L.
Bachus	Burton (IN)	Diaz-Balart, M.
Baker	Buyer	Doolittle
Barrett (SC)	Calvert	Drake
Bartlett (MD)	Camp (MI)	Dreier
Barton (TX)	Campbell (CA)	Ehlers
Bass	Cannon	Emerson
Beauprez	Cantor	English (PA)
Biggert	Capito	Everett
Bilirakis	Carter	Feeney
Bishop (UT)	Castle	Ferguson
Blackburn	Chabot	Fitzpatrick (PA)
Blunt	Chocola	Flake
Boehlert	Coble	Foley
Boehner	Cole (OK)	Forbes
Bonilla	Conaway	Fortenberry
Bonner	Crenshaw	Fossella
Bono	Cubin	Fox
Boozman	Culberson	Franks (AZ)
Boustany	Davis (KY)	Frelinghuysen
Bradley (NH)	Davis, Jo Ann	Gallegly
Brown (SC)	Davis, Tom	Garrett (NJ)
	Deal (GA)	Gibbons

Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Green (WI)
Gutknecht
Hall
Harris
Hart
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hostettler
Hulshof
Hyde
Inglis (SC)
Istook
Jenkins
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Kline
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lewis (CA)
Linder

LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McHenry
McHugh
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nunes
Nussle
Osborne
Otter
Oxley
Pearce
Pence
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pombo
Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Ramstad
Regula
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)

Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Saxton
Schmidt
Schwarz (MI)
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherwood
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Sodrel
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Tancredo
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—18

Boren
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Duncan
Evans
Hastings (FL)

Hunter
Issa
Kennedy (RI)
Larsen (WA)
Lewis (KY)
McMorris

Radanovich
Ryan (OH)
Shimkus
Sweeney
Waters
Weldon (FL)

□ 1736

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall No. 61, I was in a meeting with the Minister of Northern Ireland and missed the 2 minute vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 61 on the Velázquez amendment to H.R. 4939, to prohibit the use of funds from being made available to enforce deadlines regarding economic injury disaster loan applications and physical loan applications, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. VELÁZQUEZ

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on the second amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 200, noes 219, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 62]

AYES—200

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Andrews
Baca
Baird
Baldwin
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Boswell
Boucher
Brady (PA)
Brown (OH)
Brown, Corrine
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carson
Case
Chandler
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Cramer
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (AL)
Davis (FL)
Davis (TN)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Emanuel
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Ford
Frank (MA)
Gonzalez
Gordon
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva

Gutierrez
Harman
Hersteth
Higgins
Hinchev
Hinojosa
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Inslee
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jindal
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick (MI)
Kind
Kucinich
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lynch
Maloney
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy
McCormack (MN)
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (VA)
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)

Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor
Payne
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sabo
Salazar
Sánchez, Linda
T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sanders
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz (PA)
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Sherman
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Solis
Spratt
Stark
Strickland
Stupak
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Towns
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Wexler
Whitfield
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn

NOES—219

Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Bachus
Baker
Barrett (SC)
Barton (TX)
Bass
Beauprez
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner

Bono
Boozman
Boustany
Boyd
Bradley (NH)
Brady (TX)
Brown (SC)
Brown-Waite,
Ginny
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito

Carter
Castle
Chabot
Chocola
Coble
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Crenshaw
Cubin
Culberson
Davis (KY)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeLay
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.

Doolittle
Drake
Dreier
Ehlers
Emerson
English (PA)
Everett
Feeney
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick (PA)
Flake
Foley
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxy
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Granger
Graves
Green (WI)
Gutknecht
Hall
Harris
Hart
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hensarling
Herger
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hostettler
Hulshof
Hunter
Hyde
Inglis (SC)
Issa
Istook
Jenkins
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (IL)
Johnson, Sam
Keller
Kelly

Kennedy (MN)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kline
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kuhl (NY)
LaHood
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel
E.
Mack
Manzullo
Marchant
McCaul (TX)
McCotter
McCrery
McHenry
McHugh
McKeon
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran (KS)
Murphy
Musgrave
Myrick
Neugebauer
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nunes
Osborne
Otter
Oxley
Paul
Pearce
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pombo
Porter

Price (GA)
Pryce (OH)
Putnam
Ramstad
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reynolds
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Saxton
Schmidt
Schwarz (MI)
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherwood
Shuster
Simmons
Simpson
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Sodrel
Souder
Stearns
Sullivan
Tancredo
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thornberry
Nunes
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Turner
Upton
Walden (OR)
Walsh
Wamp
Weller
Westmoreland
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—13

Boren
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Duncan
Evans

Hastings (FL)
Kirk
McMorris
Radanovich
Shimkus

Sweeney
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)

□ 1740

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 62 on the Velázquez amendment to H.R. 4939, to prohibit the use of funds from being available to make or guarantee a loan under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act other than a loan for which the borrower is charged an interest rate in accordance with section 7(c)(5), I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Chairman, on rollcall Nos. 60, 61, and 62, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. LEE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The pending business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 189, noes 230, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 63]

AYES—189

Abercrombie	Herseth	Olver
Ackerman	Higgins	Ortiz
Allen	Hinche	Owens
Andrews	Hinojosa	Pallone
Baca	Holden	Pascarell
Baird	Holt	Pastor
Baldwin	Honda	Payne
Barrow	Hookey	Pelosi
Bean	Hoyer	Pomeroy
Becerra	Inslee	Price (NC)
Berkley	Israel	Rahall
Berman	Jackson (IL)	Rangel
Berry	Jackson-Lee	Reichert
Bishop (GA)	(TX)	Reyes
Bishop (NY)	Jefferson	Ross
Blumenauer	Jindal	Rothman
Boswell	Johnson, E. B.	Roybal-Allard
Brady (PA)	Jones (OH)	Ruppersberger
Brown (OH)	Kanjorski	Rush
Brown, Corrine	Kaptur	Ryan (OH)
Butterfield	Kennedy (RI)	Sabo
Capps	Kildee	Salazar
Capuano	Kilpatrick (MI)	Sanchez, Linda
Cardin	Kind	T.
Cardoza	Kucinich	Sanchez, Loretta
Carnahan	Langevin	Sanders
Carson	Lantos	Schakowsky
Case	Larsen (WA)	Schiff
Chandler	Larson (CT)	Schwartz (PA)
Clay	Lee	Scott (GA)
Cleaver	Levin	Scott (VA)
Clyburn	Lewis (GA)	Serrano
Conyers	Lipinski	Sherman
Costa	Lofgren, Zoe	Simmons
Costello	Lowey	Skelton
Crowley	Lynch	Slaughter
Cuellar	Maloney	Smith (WA)
Cummings	Markey	Snyder
Davis (AL)	Matsui	Solis
Davis (FL)	McCarthy	Stark
Davis (TN)	McCollum (MN)	Strickland
DeFazio	McDermott	Stupak
DeGette	McGovern	Tauscher
Delahunt	McIntyre	Thompson (CA)
DeLauro	McKinney	Thompson (MS)
Dicks	McNulty	Tierney
Dingell	Meehan	Towns
Doggett	Meek (FL)	Udall (CO)
Doyle	Meeks (NY)	Udall (NM)
Edwards	Melancon	Van Hollen
Emanuel	Michaud	Velázquez
Engel	Millender	Visclosky
Eshoo	McDonald	Wasserman
Etheridge	Miller (NC)	Schultz
Farr	Miller, George	Waters
Fattah	Mollohan	Watson
Filner	Moore (KS)	Watt
Ford	Moore (WI)	Waxman
Frank (MA)	Moran (VA)	Weiner
Gonzalez	Murtha	Wexler
Green, Al	Nadler	Woolsey
Green, Gene	Napolitano	Wu
Grijalva	Neal (MA)	Wynn
Gutierrez	Oberstar	
Harman	Obey	

NOES—230

Aderholt	Bishop (UT)	Bradley (NH)
Akin	Blackburn	Brady (TX)
Alexander	Blunt	Brown (SC)
Bachus	Boehlert	Brown-Waite,
Baker	Boehner	Ginny
Barrett (SC)	Bonilla	Burgess
Bartlett (MD)	Bonner	Burton (IN)
Barton (TX)	Bono	Buyer
Bass	Boozman	Calvert
Beauprez	Boucher	Camp (MI)
Biggert	Boustany	Campbell (CA)
Bilirakis	Boyd	Cannon

Cantor	Hunter	Pickering
Capito	Hyde	Pitts
Carter	Inglis (SC)	Platts
Castle	Issa	Poe
Chabot	Istook	Pombo
Chocola	Jenkins	Porter
Coble	Johnson (CT)	Price (GA)
Cole (OK)	Johnson (IL)	Pryce (OH)
Conaway	Johnson, Sam	Putnam
Cooper	Jones (NC)	Ramstad
Cramer	Keller	Regula
Crenshaw	Kelly	Rehberg
Cubin	Kennedy (MN)	Renzi
Culberson	King (IA)	Reynolds
Davis (KY)	King (NY)	Rogers (AL)
Davis, Jo Ann	Kingston	Rogers (KY)
Davis, Tom	Kirk	Rogers (MI)
Deal (GA)	Kline	Rohrabacher
DeLay	Knollenberg	Ros-Lehtinen
Dent	Kolbe	Royce
Diaz-Balart, L.	Kuhl (NY)	Ryan (WI)
Doolittle	LaHood	Ryun (KS)
Drake	Latham	Saxton
Dreier	LaTourette	Schmidt
Ehlers	Leach	Schwarz (MI)
Emerson	Lewis (CA)	Sensenbrenner
English (PA)	Lewis (KY)	Sessions
Everett	Linder	Shadegg
Feeney	LoBiondo	Shaw
Ferguson	Lucas	Shays
Fitzpatrick (PA)	Lungren, Daniel	Sherwood
Flake	E.	Shuster
Foley	Mack	Simpson
Forbes	Manzullo	Smith (NJ)
Fortenberry	Marchant	Sodrel
Fossella	Marshall	Souder
Fox	Matheson	Spratt
Franks (AZ)	McCaul (TX)	Stearns
Frelinghuysen	McCotter	Sullivan
Gallely	McCrery	Tancred
Garrett (NJ)	McHenry	Tanner
Gerlach	McHugh	Taylor (MS)
Gibbons	McKeon	Taylor (NC)
Gilchrest	Mica	Terry
Gillmor	Miller (FL)	Thomas
Gingrey	Miller (MI)	Thornberry
Gohmert	Miller, Gary	Tiahrt
Goode	Moran (KS)	Tiberi
Goodlatte	Murphy	Turner
Gordon	Musgrave	Upton
Granger	Myrick	Walsh
Graves	Neugebauer	Wamp
Green (WI)	Ney	Weldon (FL)
Gutknecht	Northup	Weldon (PA)
Hall	Norwood	Weller
Hart	Nunes	Westmoreland
Hastings (WA)	Nussle	Whitfield
Hayes	Osborne	Wicker
Hayworth	Otter	Wilson (NM)
Hefley	Oxley	Wilson (SC)
Hensarling	Paul	Wolf
Herger	Pearce	Young (AK)
Hobson	Pence	Young (FL)
Hoekstra	Peterson (MN)	
Hostettler	Peterson (PA)	
Hulshof	Petri	

NOT VOTING—13

Boren	Evans	Shimkus
Davis (CA)	Harris	Smith (TX)
Davis (IL)	Hastings (FL)	Sweeney
Diaz-Balart, M.	McMorris	
Duncan	Radanovich	

□ 1745

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Chairman, during rollcall vote No. 63 on the Lee amendment to H.R. 4939, to prohibit the use of funds from being available to implement, administer, or enforce the termination of the hotel and motel emergency sheltering program established by FEMA for families displaced by Hurricane Katrina and other hurricanes of the 2005 season, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Mr. OLIVER. Mr. Chairman, Congressman JACK MURTHA from Pennsylvania, a decorated Marine from the Vietnam War and the most respected person in the House of Representa-

tives on military affairs, has the Iraq situation just about right. A free and stable Iraq cannot be achieved militarily. We should not be suffering casualties nearly three years after that fateful day on the carrier off San Diego when President Bush declared "Mission Accomplished," and yet 93 percent of our casualties have occurred since that day.

The Iraqis must make hard political decisions. They must decide if they want a unified country with shared power and responsibility proportionate to population and protected rights for all. As long as we run the military operations and bear the brunt of casualties, the political decisions are avoided. We must make it clear that we will not be caught in their civil war if the Iraqis do not want a unified country enough to avoid a civil war politically.

We must make a concerted effort to persuade the EU, NATO and the rest of our allies to help train Iraqi security forces and establish a judicial system so Iraqis can regain their lives. President Bush's repeated claim that nearly 200,000 Iraqi police and army personnel have been trained to secure Iraq has been disputed for months, even by our own military leaders. However, those Iraqis, whatever their numbers, must stand up for a unified Iraq if that is what they want and believe in. Finally, we need to withdraw from Iraq expeditiously within 2006.

I am voting against this supplemental budget because it simply enables the president to continue his totally flawed and incompetently managed misadventure without forcing the Iraqis to reach political accommodations that can end the insurgency and create a stable, unified country. This war supplemental will be followed by another equally large one as soon as our November elections have passed. You can bet on it.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chairman, today I rise in support of the supplemental budget despite reservations about parts of this legislation. While I think this bill could be substantially improved, I also believe that, on balance, it does more good than harm. This bill provides funds for a number of important purposes, including the equipment necessary to support and protect our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan; emergency relief for the victims of hurricane Katrina; and funds to support international efforts to stop the mass killings of innocent people in Sudan. I will address each of these in turn.

Let me start with Iraq. While I opposed the President's decision to go to war in Iraq and Afghanistan, I am supporting this bill because I believe we must provide our troops with the necessary equipment while they are there. I also believe, however, that the President has failed to provide the American people with a viable plan for success in Iraq. This bill fails to include benchmarks to hold the Administration accountable. The bill also fails to include adequate safeguards to ensure that the funds are spent responsibly.

Millions of dollars have already been lost or wasted in Iraq due to poor oversight. Every effort must be made to prevent another Halliburton from growing fat at the expense of the American taxpayer. I recently supported an amendment in the Government Reform Committee that would have held the federal government responsible for overspending and

general mismanagement of federal funds. Despite the common sense nature of this amendment, it failed on a party line vote. This Congress has totally failed in its oversight responsibilities with respect to these funds.

Let me now turn to Afghanistan. I supported the decision to take military action against al Qaeda and the Taliban in Afghanistan. I believe we have not yet completed our mission there. Osama bin Laden remains at large, al Qaeda continues to operate and the Taliban have stepped up their attacks. In the face of these realities, the funds provided for U.S. and international efforts in Afghanistan are inadequate.

During a recent hearing before the House Appropriations Committee, Ronald Neumann, our Ambassador in Afghanistan testified that not enough was being appropriated for our efforts there. I agree. This bill fails to meet the commitments we have made to Afghanistan. It defers the promised cancellation of Afghanistan's \$11 million debt owed to the United States; it cuts \$16 million from USAID for mission security in Afghanistan and reduces by \$2.2 billion Department of Defense funds for Afghan security force training. The bill also cuts funds for counter-narcotics activities in Afghanistan from \$193 million to \$157 million.

As U.S. commanders prepare to devolve more responsibility for security to other coalition partners and to the Afghans, they must account for the fact that it could take years and billions of dollars to achieve the level of self-sustainability necessary to provide for Afghanistan's infrastructure and national security needs.

A critical test will occur this summer as the U.S. military officially hands over control of the dangerous southern region to NATO forces. Counter-insurgency has never been NATO's job and there are questions about whether it is ready and willing to take on this new role. The volatile southern region has the highest incidents of terrorism, drug trafficking and organized crime in the country. Of the more than 100 American soldiers killed in insurgency attacks in the last year—most of the deaths occurred in the southern region.

We must recognize that it is in our national security interest to work with the Afghan people. We must work to accelerate efforts to build and strengthen national institutions, the economy and Afghan security. By reducing the funding for Afghan operations at this critical time we are sending the wrong message to our troops, to our allies and to the people of Afghanistan.

Next, to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina, the bill contains \$19 billion to aid recovery and reconstruction efforts. Most of the funds will go to the Federal Emergency Management Agency but \$4 billion will go towards community development and for loans to homeowners, renters and businesses. Months after the hurricane, thousands of people are still looking for permanent homes. This funding will help citizens displaced by Hurricane Katrina rebuild their lives.

This bill also contains emergency funding to help those suffering in Sudan. The United States and the international community have failed to take adequate steps to stop the genocide. This bill at least attempts to alleviate the suffering. It includes \$66 million for humanitarian support, \$11 million to assist refugees in Darfur and Chad to return to their homes,

\$150 million for food, \$123 million to support African Union troops and, with the adoption of the Capuano amendment, \$88 million to prepare for the transition to UN peacekeepers.

Mr. Chairman, despite the reservations I have raised, I believe the bill deserves our support.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to oppose the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Hurricane Recovery, H.R. 4939. This supplemental bill, totaling \$91.8 billion, is the largest that the House of Representatives has ever considered.

As I have said repeatedly on the House floor, I strongly oppose using so-called "emergency supplementals" to fund non-emergency, clearly foreseeable expenditures. This bill provides \$72 billion for continued military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The fact that our troops are on the ground in these dangerous places is not a surprise. They have been in Iraq for almost three years. Their needs are well known to everyone, except, it seems, the President and his budget staff. Every year, the President fails to budget for the cost of military operations, and every year he pretends that the war is an unforeseen "emergency".

Funding our soldiers this way is dangerous because it leaves them ill-equipped and subject to last minute actions like this by Congress. If, by contrast, we funded military operations through the normal budget process, funding decisions would be made in the open and with the appropriate scrutiny they deserve. It would also allow for long term planning and more thoughtful budgeting. We have all read about the contracting waste and fraud that has occurred in Iraq. A number of no-bid and open ended contracts have wasted millions of taxpayer's dollars. This waste has made a few crooked businessmen wealthy and done nothing to protect our troops or help build a more stable democracy in Iraq.

Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, I refuse to continue to fund a failed policy. I opposed this war because I did not think the President had made a convincing case for the existence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and I opposed his illegal doctrine of pre-emption. Since then I have only been heartbroken by the utter incompetence of which it has been planned. Our soldiers are doing outstanding work, and I salute their sacrifice. But the policy-makers in Washington have let them down and put them in an impossible situation. As I said in a letter to Secretary Rice last September, it is time to begin bringing our soldiers home. Spending good money after bad on a failed policy puts our soldiers, and our national security in even greater risk.

There are portions of this bill that should have been in the President's budget last year. For example, I fully support up-arming HUMVEE's and tanks in Iraq. I also support investing \$59 million to fund foreign language proficiency pay. I also support the \$1.4 billion in the bill to fund family separation allowances, hardship duty, and combat pay.

Yet, all of these funds could have, and should have, been included in the regular budget process. But they were not.

Let me talk for a moment about the other good portions of this bill which were attached by the Majority in a cynical attempt to buy votes for the overall bill.

There is true emergency funding in this bill. But it is money for Sudan and the Gulf Coast, not Iraq.

This bill also contains money to help in the recovery of another emergency, one that struck our own shore. Just over six months ago, the Gulf Coast was struck by Hurricane Katrina. I have visited the Gulf Coast and found that the destruction was terrible, with hundreds of thousands uprooted only to return and discover their homes were obliterated. The debris is still being cleaned. The people of the Gulf Coast region are looking to rebuild and continue their lives, and this bill provides \$19 billion in needed funds to assist in financing the rebuilding effort. This money helps us to keep faith with those who were failed by their government in the days and weeks following Hurricane Katrina. I am voting for an amendment that would increase by \$2 billion community development funds available to assist local communities rebuild.

The genocide that continues to this day in Darfur, in the Sudan, is unconscionable. The President has said this, the Secretary of State has said this. Further, I have said a number of times that America needs to do everything it can to end the Darfur genocide. This bill contains \$514 million for Sudan, with a large portion going to the Darfur region to fund the African Union peace keeping mission. I strongly support this funding. There is a true emergency in Sudan and I am glad that this money will be provided to end the genocide and provide humanitarian assistance to devastated people in the region. I am voting for the Capuano Amendment to add an additional \$50 million to help fund extra peacekeepers in Darfur.

I am sorry that these true emergency funds were attached to the foreseeable spending for the ongoing operations in Iraq. I have voted for rebuilding the Gulf Coast and ending the genocide in Darfur in the past, and I will continue to do so. But I will not fund a failed policy in Iraq that is jeopardizing our soldiers needlessly, stoking the insurgency, draining our national resources, and doing nothing to protect Americans from terrorism at home.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Chairman, I would like to express my strong objection to the House Republican Leadership combining two separate emergency supplementals into a single bill. The response to Hurricane Katrina and the Iraqi war deserve separate debates and significant oversight and deliberation.

The human suffering that our neighbors along the Gulf Coast experienced and continue to experience seven months later cannot be underestimated. It will take a sustained federal and state, public and private commitment to help those affected get back on their feet. While I support a long-term reconstruction of the Gulf region, I cannot in good conscience vote for this bill.

I strongly believe we need better oversight of supplemental funding bills, particularly those that fund "the long war." There were excellent amendments offered on the floor today that I supported that should have passed if Congress had been exercising its Constitutional oversight role. For instance, I supported an Iraqi contracting amendment and one to prevent permanent bases in Iraq. We cannot become occupiers.

On this third anniversary of the war, our soldiers, our national guard, their families and all Americans deserve better than platitudes from

the Administration. I have repeatedly called for greater Congressional oversight and an exit strategy, while recognizing that our troops have done an excellent job, despite often lacking sufficient body armor or equipment. I welcome the President's statements that troops will be drawn down by the end of the year, but I believe that our soldiers are being placed in an untenable situation, and need to be brought home as soon as possible.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to rise in support of H.R. 4939. I would like to thank the Appropriations Committee leadership for their efforts to provide our men and women in uniform with the equipment that they need as they continue their efforts in Iraq, Afghanistan and throughout the world. My colleagues on the House Armed Services Committee and I have fought for enhanced force protection equipment, much of which is included in this bill. H.R. 4939 includes \$410 million for up-armored Humvees and \$2 billion to develop and procure jammers for improvised explosive devices. Given the number of U.S. casualties resulting from IEDs, jammer technology is one of the most important investments this Congress can make to protect our troops.

I am also pleased that this legislation provides more than \$19 billion in much-needed assistance to the victims of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma. Months after those storms battered our Gulf Coast, many Americans are still displaced, and basic services are not available in places like New Orleans. Given the federal government's insufficient efforts in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, it is our responsibility to provide the affected residents and businesses with the resources and assistance they need to rebuild.

This measure will also greatly assist those facing exorbitant heating bills this winter. After Hurricanes Katrina and Rita damaged domestic energy sources, all Americans experienced higher energy costs, but the burden was particularly heavy for low-income residents in cold climates. H.R. 4939 will allow states to access \$1 billion in Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) funding more quickly, which will be welcome news to states such as Rhode Island that are struggling to help families in need.

I greatly appreciate the Committee's inclusion of assistance to the victims of genocidal violence in Darfur and to train and equip the African Union peacekeeping troops. To date, at least one hundred thousand people have been killed, with millions more displaced. It is impossible to view the images from Sudan without being outraged at the cruelty and injustice of the situation. Our nation must do more to prevent further violence. Last year, I advocated for funding for African Union peacekeepers in the Defense Appropriations bill, and though that was not successful, H.R. 4939 funds peacekeeping missions in Sudan and encourages greater involvement by the United Nations.

Finally, in welcome news to the American people, the legislation blocks Dubai Ports World from assuming control over six U.S. ports as part of their acquisition of P&O Steam Navigation Company. As a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I strongly opposed the sale because of the lack of a comprehensive investigation into the national security implications. We need to ensure that foreign investment decisions are based on real

national security considerations and not just financial gain. I have been working to enhance port security in our nation, and the Dubai ports deal reminds Americans that until appropriate measures are taken, our ports will continue to be vulnerable. I am pleased that H.R. 4939 contains this commonsense provision, but we must do more to secure our infrastructure and improve Congressional oversight of foreign investment decisions.

Again, I thank my colleagues for their efforts on this important bill, and I urge all Members to support its passage.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to tell a tale of two Republican disasters, the Iraq War and Hurricane Katrina. It is a story with no best of times, only the worst of times. This tale is why I oppose the Supplemental Appropriations Act (H.R. 4939).

The main characters in my story are an incompetent President and a corrupt Congress. The setting is an America desperate for honest leadership. But the plot involves lies and cover-ups. The problem is misplaced priorities. But the solution is not this supplemental, which provides another \$67.6 billion for a failed war but only \$19 billion to help the victims of Katrina.

The first disaster, the Iraq War, was predicated on lies. Iraq had no weapons of mass destruction, had never attempted to buy uranium from Niger, and was not about to welcome American soldiers with open arms.

An incompetent President failed to prepare America for the postwar period. As a result, looting of stores and museums began shortly after the United States military gained control of Baghdad. Months later, sectarian violence has pushed Iraq to civil war, with Shiite militia and security forces clashing with Sunni citizens and insurgents.

Yet our troops remain in Iraq and in harms way. Two American soldiers and 40 Iraqi soldiers and civilians are killed every day. As long as we stay in Iraq, the insurgency will continue, even as the so-called Iraqi democracy experiment goes nowhere. Three months after parliamentary elections, the Iraqi parliament has yet to form a government.

Finally, large Republican donors including Halliburton have looted the American treasury. Using their connections to secure no-bid contracts for services in Iraq, these firms overcharge American taxpayers and underserve our troops. All the while, Republicans' blind allegiance to the President causes them to write blank checks, throwing good money after bad at a war that is making America less secure.

The second disaster was the Republican response to Hurricane Katrina. Several days before Katrina ravaged the Gulf Coast, the President was briefed on the severity of the storm and the likelihood levees would be breached. But after failing to cut short his extended vacation to help with the response, the President told ABC News and the American public he was not advised the levees were likely to collapse.

After years of underfunding levee construction and maintenance, Republicans attempted to shift the blame for the disaster and the inadequate response onto state and local officials. But it was President Bush who nominated unqualified campaign hacks to head FEMA and congressional Republicans who rubber-stamped the appointment of Michael Brown.

As a result of insufficient preparation and incompetent administration, tens of thousands of

hurricane victims went without adequate food, water, and shelter in the storm's aftermath. Six months after Katrina, relief workers are still finding bodies of victims.

In an attempt to atone for their sins, the Republicans have finally brought forth additional legislation to help Katrina victims. But in a pathetic and transparent attempt to prevent full debate on the disastrous Iraq War, President Bush's Republican cronies in Congress combined two supplementals into one.

Although I support additional funding for hurricane victims, I cannot vote for a supplemental that appropriates 74 percent of its funds, or \$67.6 billion, to a misguided Iraq war on which we have already wasted \$350 billion—and the lives of 2,310 American soldiers and at least 37,000 Iraqi citizens.

It is time to tell a new tale, about bringing home our troops and rebuilding homes for Katrina victims. Let's get this Iraq monkey off our back and supplement housing rather than Halliburton.

I urge my colleagues to vote against this bill, and help me to tell a new tale about American successes rather than Republican disasters.

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in protest at this Administration's egregious treatment of tens of thousands of families of survivors who were displaced by and continue to suffer in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Today, on the Ides of March, some ten thousand families are being evicted from temporary housing in hotels by FEMA.

This would have happened months ago but for cries of protest and legal injunctions that forced FEMA to keep rolling back the eviction deadline: December 15th, January 7th, January 31st, February 15th, February 28th, and now March 15th—on each of these dates, families were evicted.

So to the 10,000 families being evicted today, we must add some 30,000 families already evicted, giving us a figure of some 40,000 families who will have been evacuated from temporary housing in hotels.

FEMA and DHS have not provided any comprehensive plan to transition these survivors out of temporary and into permanent shelters, and while tens of thousands are already living in tents and cars, thousands more are being thrown out to sleep on the streets, because the shelters are already full.

Last week, during one of his rare visits to the Gulf Coast, the President bluntly accused Congress of moving too slow in providing funds for housing and reconstruction.

Let me read to the House a passage from the Stafford Act. This is from Section 407:

The President is authorized to provide assistance on a temporary basis in the form of mortgage or rental payments to or on behalf of individuals and families who, as a result of financial hardship caused by a major disaster, have received written notice of dispossession or eviction from a residence by reason of a foreclosure of any mortgage or lien, cancellation of any contract of sale, or termination of any lease entered into prior to such disaster. Such assistance shall be provided for the duration of the period or financial hardship but not to exceed 18 months.

So under the Stafford Act, survivors being evicted from temporary housing are entitled to 18 months of housing assistance, that means another full year, of rental assistance, but only if the President authorizes the necessary sums.

Rather than stepping in and taking charge, the President is passing the blame back to the Congress for a "Failure of Initiative," the title of a report coming from his own party, which delivered stinging criticism of the Administration's handling of the aftermath of Katrina.

Mr. Chairman, the failure to take initiative did not arise from this side of the aisle. We now have 77 signatures on H.R. 4197, the Hurricane Katrina Recovery, Reclamation, Restoration, Reconstruction and Reunion Act, which sets out a comprehensive plan to provide housing, health care, education, environmental clean-up, and to meet nearly all of the still urgent needs of the Gulf Coast survivors. And we are calling out to our colleagues across the aisle to join our initiative and do what is just and right for our fellow Americans caught up in the largest population displacement our Nation has seen since the Great Depression and slavery.

As we consider yet another supplemental request for tens of billions for a military occupation of Iraq, where violence is spinning out of control and toward all-out civil war under our watch, let us ask ourselves the hard questions:

How can we deny housing, education and health care to American citizens displaced by Katrina and yet continue to build homes, schools and hospitals in Iraq?

How can we refuse to provide satellite voting for hundreds of thousands of displaced New Orleansians and yet spend hundreds of millions on satellite voting stations for Iraqis in America?

Why are survivors in Mississippi and Texas entitled to trailers whilst those in Louisiana are not?

Why are hurricane survivors in Florida and Texas entitled to maximum benefits under the Stafford Act whilst Katrina survivors from Mississippi and Louisiana are told they must fend for themselves?

And finally, Mr. Chairman, was the decision to send the poorest and most traumatized survivors of the flooding of New Orleans into diaspora simply an ad hoc decision, or part of an overall strategic plan to keep as many poor and minority residents as possible from returning to New Orleans, in order to lay the groundwork for an urban real estate bonanza? Is this the reason our government is so intent upon refusing New Orleans survivors their basic rights under law?

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Chairman, from the beginning, the Bush Administration's policy on Iraq has been based on distortions and misjudgments. Prior to the invasion, I fought to prevent this war. I parted with most members of Congress and cast a vote against the resolution authorizing the use of military force in Iraq. The President misled the American people into believing there was a link between Iraq and the terrorist attacks of September 11, and he distorted and misrepresented intelligence data about weapons of mass destruction.

I understand the frustration and heartbreak that have led many Americans to conclude that it is now time for us to remove ourselves from this misguided quagmire and bring our troops home. That is why I have called on the President to change course. America simply cannot continue indefinitely to pay the high costs in both lives and dollars to stay on the same failed course in Iraq.

In December 2005, I voted for H.R. 1815, the FY 2006 Defense Authorization bill, which

the President signed into law in January 2006. Section 1227 of that bill, United States Policy on Iraq, states that it is the sense of Congress that "calendar year 2006 should be a period of significant transition to full Iraq sovereignty, with Iraqi security forces taking the lead for the security of a free and sovereign Iraq, thereby creating the conditions for the phased redeployment of United States forces from Iraq."

It is time for the President to implement this policy. We have no choice but to approve this spending bill. We cannot put our troops at greater risk. If the President does not heed the intent of Congress and the American people, Congress should take more direct action to bring our troops home promptly and safely. We should not have American troops in the middle of a civil war.

I have repeatedly called for a change in America's policies so that we can bring our troops home as soon as possible. In December 2004, I visited our troops in Iraq. I thanked them for their service and listened to their stories. It was a moving experience for me. I honor the sacrifices they and their families are making each day.

The men and women of our armed forces are demonstrating tremendous dedication to our Nation through their performance in Iraq. These brave soldiers have put their lives in harm's way for our country, and we are forever grateful for their service.

This bill also contains crucial provisions, which I support, that would provide nearly \$20 billion for Hurricane Katrina relief, including funds for housing, community planning and development, flood control, and small business loans. In addition, the House should take up H.R. 4197, a comprehensive Hurricane Katrina recovery bill introduced by the Congressional Black Caucus.

I am encouraged that the bill provides more than \$500 million to address the ongoing genocide in southern Sudan and Darfur. These funds are critical to meeting the immediate needs of victims of the Darfur crisis, such as shelter, health care, and access to water and sanitation. Sudanese government-backed Arab militias have slaughtered hundreds of thousands of villagers, and they have burned entire villages. Up to two million refugees have fled this genocide to neighboring countries, but the small, poorly-equipped, and underfunded African Union (AU) force cannot offer them adequate protection. This bill provides needed funding to help transition the AU peacekeeping operation to a United Nations mission. It is also encouraging that last week the House International Relations Committee reported out H.R. 3127, the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, which I urge the House to take up without delay.

Lastly, I strongly support the inclusion of an amendment adopted by the Appropriations Committee to cancel the planned transfer of U.S. ports to Dubai Ports World, which is owned by the United Arab Emirates. Although the UAE recently agreed to abandon its efforts to take over American ports, this Congress still needs to enact bipartisan legislation that I introduced with Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee Chairman CLAY SHAW, H.R. 4839, the Secure America's Port Operations Act, which would prohibit any foreign-government owned operations at U.S. seaports in the future.

Mr. Chairman, this emergency supplemental is a necessary measure that will provide es-

sential support for our troops in their arduous mission in Iraq, vital funding for the global war on terror, and desperately needed assistance for our own Gulf region and the many Americans who have been uprooted by Hurricane Katrina.

The Acting CHAIRMAN (Mr. POE). The Clerk will read the final lines of the bill.

The Clerk read as follows:

This Act may be cited as the "Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Hurricane Recovery, 2006".

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise and report the bill back to the House with sundry amendments, with the recommendation that the amendments be agreed to and that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. DRAKE) having assumed the chair, Mr. POE, Acting Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4939) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, had directed him to report the bill back to the House with sundry amendments, with the recommendation that the amendments be agreed to and that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 725, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment? If not, the Chair will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT OFFERED BY MR. HINCHEY

Mr. HINCHEY. Madam Speaker, I offer a motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. HINCHEY. Yes, Madam Speaker, I am.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Hinchey of New York moves to recommit the bill, H.R. 4939, to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same forthwith to the House with the following amendment:

"On page 82, line 4, strike "2007" and insert "2006".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HINCHEY. Madam Speaker, the motion to recommit is very simple and direct. It says that the appropriations that were directed toward the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program for the year 2006 must be spent in

that year, not moved over to the year 2007.

We are doing this for obvious reasons. The high cost of energy is making it extremely difficult for low-income people, particularly elderly, low-income people, to meet their home energy assistance payments, and also to meet their other needs.

It is also affecting large numbers of other people in our communities across the Northeast, the upper Midwest, and elsewhere across the country.

That, and the drop in temperatures recently, is causing some serious problems for many people. We want to make sure that the money that was appropriated for the LIHEAP program is used this year, appropriately so that people do not suffer as a result of its not being used.

I think the case has been made.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I will take 30 seconds.

The House has expressed its will in many ways regarding LIHEAP. We are going to do what is right regarding that funding for 2006 and 2007. To send it back to committee would kill this bill.

The Members have done a fabulous job in a very bipartisan way producing a fine product. I ask for an "aye" vote on final passage and against the gentleman's motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. HINCHEY. Madam Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of passage.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 188, noes 233, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 64]

AYES—188

Abercrombie	Boswell	Clyburn
Ackerman	Boucher	Conyers
Allen	Boyd	Costa
Andrews	Brown (OH)	Costello
Baca	Brown, Corrine	Crowley
Baird	Butterfield	Cuellar
Baldwin	Capps	Cummings
Barrow	Capuano	Davis (AL)
Bean	Cardin	Davis (FL)
Becerra	Cardoza	Davis (TN)
Berkley	Carnahan	DeFazio
Berman	Carson	DeGette
Berry	Case	Delahunt
Bishop (GA)	Chandler	DeLauro
Bishop (NY)	Clay	Dicks
Blumenauer	Cleaver	Dingell

Doggett	Lofgren, Zoe	Ruppersberger
Edwards	Lowey	Rush
Emanuel	Lynch	Ryan (OH)
Engel	Maloney	Sabo
Eshoo	Markey	Salazar
Ethieridge	Marshall	Sánchez, Linda
Farr	Matheson	T.
Fattah	Matsui	Sanchez, Loretta
Filner	McCarthy	Sanders
Ford	McCollum (MN)	Schakowsky
Frank (MA)	McDermott	Schiff
Gonzalez	McGovern	Schwartz (PA)
Gordon	McIntyre	Scott (GA)
Green, Al	McKinney	Scott (VA)
Green, Gene	McNulty	Serrano
Grijalva	Meehan	Sherman
Gutierrez	Meek (FL)	Skelton
Harman	Meeke (NY)	Slaughter
Herseth	Melancon	Smith (WA)
Higgins	Michaud	Snyder
Hinchey	Millender-	Solis
Hinojosa	McDonald	Spratt
Holt	Miller (NC)	Stark
Honda	Miller, George	Strickland
Hooley	Moore (KS)	Stupak
Hoyer	Moore (WI)	Tanner
Inlee	Moran (VA)	Tauscher
Israel	Nadler	Taylor (MS)
Jackson (IL)	Napolitano	Thompson (CA)
Jackson-Lee	Neal (MA)	Thompson (MS)
(TX)	Oberstar	Tierney
Jefferson	Obey	Towns
Johnson, E. B.	Oliver	Udall (CO)
Jones (OH)	Ortiz	Udall (NM)
Kaptur	Owens	Van Hollen
Kennedy (RI)	Pallone	Velázquez
Kildee	Pascarella	Visclosky
Kilpatrick (MI)	Pastor	Wasserman
Kind	Payne	Schultz
Kucinich	Pelosi	Waters
Langevin	Peterson (MN)	Watson
Lantos	Pomeroy	Watt
Larsen (WA)	Price (NC)	Waxman
Larson (CT)	Rangel	Weiner
Lee	Reyes	Wexler
Levin	Ross	Woolsey
Lewis (GA)	Rothman	Wu
Lipinski	Roybal-Allard	Wynn

NOES—233

Aderholt	Davis, Jo Ann	Hobson
Akin	Davis, Tom	Hoekstra
Alexander	Deal (GA)	Holden
Bachus	DeLay	Hostettler
Baker	Dent	Hulshof
Barrett (SC)	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hunter
Bartlett (MD)	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hyde
Barton (TX)	Doolittle	Inglis (SC)
Bass	Doyle	Issa
Beauprez	Drake	Istook
Biggert	Dreier	Jenkins
Bilirakis	Ehlers	Jindal
Bishop (UT)	Emerson	Johnson (CT)
Blackburn	English (PA)	Johnson (IL)
Blunt	Everett	Johnson, Sam
Boehlert	Feeney	Jones (NC)
Boehner	Ferguson	Kanjorski
Bonilla	Fitzpatrick (PA)	Keller
Bonner	Flake	Kelly
Bono	Foley	Kennedy (MN)
Boozman	Forbes	King (IA)
Boustany	Fortenberry	King (NY)
Bradley (NH)	Fossella	Kingston
Brady (PA)	Fox	Kirk
Brady (TX)	Franks (AZ)	Kline
Brown (SC)	Frelinghuysen	Knollenberg
Brown-Waite,	Gallegly	Kolbe
Ginny	Garrett (NJ)	Kuhl (NY)
Burgess	Gerlach	LaHood
Burton (IN)	Gibbons	Latham
Buyer	Gilchrest	LaTourette
Calvert	Gillmor	Leach
Camp (MI)	Gingrey	Lewis (CA)
Campbell (CA)	Gohmert	Lewis (KY)
Cannon	Goode	Linder
Cantor	Goodlatte	LoBiondo
Capito	Granger	Lucas
Carter	Graves	Lungren, Daniel
Castle	Green (WI)	E.
Chabot	Gutknecht	Mack
Chocola	Hall	Manzullo
Coble	Harris	Marchant
Cole (OK)	Hart	McCaul (TX)
Conaway	Hastings (WA)	McCotter
Cooper	Hayes	McCrery
Crenshaw	Hayworth	McHenry
Cubin	Hefley	McHugh
Culberson	Hensarling	McKeon
Davis (KY)	Herger	Mica

Miller (FL)	Pryce (OH)	Smith (TX)
Miller (MI)	Putnam	Sodrel
Miller, Gary	Rahall	Souder
Mollohan	Ramstad	Stearns
Moran (KS)	Regula	Sullivan
Murphy	Rehberg	Tancred
Murtha	Reichert	Taylor (NC)
Musgrave	Renzi	Terry
Myrick	Reynolds	Thomas
Neugebauer	Rogers (AL)	Thornberry
Ney	Rogers (KY)	Tiahrt
Northup	Rogers (MI)	Tiberi
Norwood	Rohrabacher	Turner
Nunes	Ros-Lehtinen	Upton
Nussle	Royce	Walden (OR)
Osborne	Ryan (WI)	Walsh
Otter	Ryun (KS)	Wamp
Oxley	Saxton	Weldon (FL)
Paul	Schmidt	Weldon (PA)
Pearce	Schwarz (MI)	Weller
Pence	Sensenbrenner	Westmoreland
Peterson (PA)	Sessions	Whitfield
Petri	Shadegg	Wicker
Pickering	Shaw	Wilson (NM)
Pitts	Shays	Wilson (SC)
Platts	Sherwood	Wolf
Poe	Shuster	Young (AK)
Pombo	Simmons	Young (FL)
Porter	Simpson	
Price (GA)	Smith (NJ)	

NOT VOTING—11

Boren	Duncan	Radanovich
Cramer	Evans	Shimkus
Davis (CA)	Hastings (FL)	Sweeney
Davis (IL)	McMorris	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DRAKE) (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1809

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

Pursuant to clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

This 5-minute vote on passage will be followed by two more 5-minute votes on two postponed questions that were debated yesterday.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 348, nays 71, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 65]

YEAS—348

Ackerman	Boozman	Cleaver
Aderholt	Boswell	Clyburn
Akin	Boucher	Cole (OK)
Alexander	Boustany	Conaway
Allen	Boyd	Costa
Andrews	Bradley (NH)	Crenshaw
Baca	Brady (PA)	Crowley
Bachus	Brady (TX)	Cuellar
Baird	Brown (OH)	Culberson
Baker	Brown (SC)	Cummings
Barrett (SC)	Brown, Corrine	Davis (AL)
Barrow	Brown-Waite,	Davis (FL)
Bartlett (MD)	Ginny	Davis (KY)
Barton (TX)	Burgess	Davis (TN)
Bass	Burton (IN)	Davis, Jo Ann
Bean	Butterfield	Davis, Tom
Beauprez	Buyer	DeFazio
Becerra	Calvert	DeGette
Berkley	Camp (MI)	Delahunt
Berman	Cantor	DeLauro
Berry	Capito	DeLay
Biggert	Capuano	Dent
Bilirakis	Cardin	Diaz-Balart, L.
Bishop (GA)	Cardoza	Diaz-Balart, M.
Bishop (NY)	Carnahan	Dicks
Bishop (UT)	Carson	Dingell
Blunt	Carter	Doggett
Boehlert	Case	Doolittle
Boehner	Castle	Doyle
Bonilla	Chabot	Drake
Bonner	Chandler	Dreier
Bono	Chocola	Edwards

Ehlers	Kuhl (NY)	Renzi	Markey	Olver	Stark	Dent	Kuhl (NY)	Rahall
Emanuel	LaHood	Reyes	McCollum (MN)	Owens	Tancredo	Dicks	Langevin	Ramstad
Engel	Langevin	Reynolds	McDermott	Pallone	Thompson (CA)	Dingell	Lantos	Rangel
English (PA)	Lantos	Rogers (AL)	McGovern	Paul	Tierney	Doggett	Larsen (WA)	Reichert
Etheridge	Larsen (WA)	Rogers (KY)	McHenry	Payne	Velázquez	Doyle	Larson (CT)	Reyes
Everett	Larson (CT)	Rogers (MI)	McKinney	Pence	Waters	Drake	LaTourette	Reynolds
Fattah	Latham	Rohrabacher	McNulty	Petri	Watson	Dreier	Leach	Rogers (AL)
Feeney	LaTourette	Ros-Lehtinen	Meehan	Rangel	Watt	Edwards	Lee	Rogers (KY)
Ferguson	Leach	Ross	Michaud	Rothman	Waxman	Ehlers	Levin	Rogers (MI)
Filner	Levin	Roybal-Allard	Miller, George	Schakowsky	Weiner	Emanuel	Lewis (GA)	Ross
Fitzpatrick (PA)	Lewis (CA)	Royce	Moore (WI)	Sensenbrenner	Westmoreland	Engel	Lewis (KY)	Rothman
Foley	Lewis (KY)	Ruppersberger	Neal (MA)	Serrano	Woolsey	English (PA)	Lipinski	Roybal-Allard
Forbes	Linder	Rush	Neugebauer	Solis	Wu	Eshoo	LoBiondo	Ruppersberger
Ford	Lipinski	Ryan (OH)				Etheridge	Lowey	Rush
Fortenberry	LoBiondo	Ryan (WI)				Farr	Lynch	Ryan (OH)
Fossella	Lofgren, Zoe	Ryun (KS)	Boren	Emerson	Radanovich	Fattah	Maloney	Sabo
Fox	Lowe	Sabo	Cramer	Evans	Shimkus	Ferguson	Marchant	Salazar
Franks (AZ)	Lucas	Salazar	Davis (CA)	Hastings (FL)	Sweeney	Filner	Markey	Sánchez, Linda
Frelinghuysen	Lungren, Daniel	Sánchez, Linda	Davis (IL)	McMorris		Fitzpatrick (PA)	Marshall	T.
Gallegly	E.	T.	Duncan	Pickering		Foley	Matheson	Sánchez, Loretta
Garrett (NJ)	Lynch	Sanchez, Loretta				Ford	Matsui	Sanders
Gerlach	Mack	Sanders				Fortenberry	McCarthy	Saxton
Gibbons	Manzullo	Saxton				Fossella	McCaul (TX)	Schakowsky
Gilchrest	Marchant	Schiff				Frank (MA)	McCollum (MN)	Schiff
Gillmor	Marshall	Schmidt				Gerlach	McCotter	Schwartz (PA)
Gingrey	Matheson	Schwartz (PA)				Gilchrest	McDermott	Schwarz (MI)
Gonzalez	Matsui	Schwarz (MI)				Gillmor	McGovern	Scott (GA)
Goode	McCarthy	Scott (GA)				Gonzalez	McHugh	Scott (VA)
Goodlatte	McCaul (TX)	Scott (VA)				Gordon	McIntyre	Serrano
Gordon	McCotter	Sessions				Graves	McKeon	Shaw
Granger	McCrery	Shadegg				Green (WI)	McKinney	Sherman
Graves	McHugh	Shaw				Green, Al	McNulty	Shuster
Green (WI)	McIntyre	Shays				Green, Gene	Meehan	Simmons
Green, Al	McKeon	Sherman				Grijalva	Meek (FL)	Skellon
Green, Gene	Meek (FL)	Sherwood				Gutierrez	Meeks (NY)	Slaughter
Gutknecht	Meeks (NY)	Shuster				Harman	Melancon	Smith (NJ)
Hall	Melancon	Simmons				Hart	Michaud	Smith (TX)
Harman	Mica	Simpson				Hayes	Millender-	Smith (WA)
Harris	McDonald	Skelton				Herseth	McDonald	Snyder
Hart	Miller (FL)	Slaughter				Higgins	Miller (MI)	Solis
Hastings (WA)	Miller (MI)	Smith (NJ)				Hinchey	Miller (NC)	Spratt
Hayes	Miller (NC)	Smith (TX)				Hinojosa	Miller, George	Stark
Hayworth	Miller, Gary	Smith (WA)				Holden	Mollohan	Strickland
Hefley	Mollohan	Snyder				Holt	Moore (KS)	Stupak
Herger	Moore (KS)	Sodrel				Honda	Moore (WI)	Tanner
Herseth	Moran (KS)	Souder				Hooley	Moran (VA)	Tauscher
Higgins	Moran (VA)	Spratt				Hoyer	Murphy	Taylor (MS)
Hinojosa	Murphy	Stearns				Hulshof	Murtha	Thompson (CA)
Hobson	Murtha	Strickland				Inglis (SC)	Musgrave	Thompson (MS)
Hoekstra	Musgrave	Stupak				Inslee	Nadler	Tierney
Holden	Myrick	Sullivan				Israel	Napolitano	Towns
Honda	Tanner	Tauscher				Jackson (IL)	Neal (MA)	Turner
Hooley	Napolitano	Taylor (MS)				Jackson-Lee	Ney	Udall (CO)
Hostettler	Ney	Taylor (NC)				(TX)	Nussle	Udall (NM)
Hoyer	Northup	Terry				Jefferson	Oberstar	Upton
Hulshof	Norwood	Thomas				Jenkins	Obey	Van Hollen
Hunter	Nunes	Thompson (MS)				Jindal	Olver	Velázquez
Hyde	Nussle	Thornberry				Johnson (CT)	Ortiz	Visclosky
Inglis (SC)	Oberstar	Tiahrt				Johnson (IL)	Osborne	Walden (OR)
Issa	Obey	Tiberi				Johnson, E. B.	Owens	Walsh
Istook	Ortiz	Towns				Jones (NC)	Pallone	Wasserman
Jackson (IL)	Osborne	Turner				Jones (OH)	Pascrell	Schultz
Jefferson	Otter	Udall (CO)				Kanjorski	Pastor	Waters
Jenkins	Oxley	Udall (NM)				Kaptur	Payne	Watson
Jindal	Pascrell	Upton				Keller	Pelosi	Watt
Johnson (CT)	Pastor	Van Hollen				Kelly	Peterson (MN)	Waxman
Johnson (IL)	Pearce	Visclosky				Kennedy (MN)	Petri	Weiner
Johnson, E. B.	Pelosi	Walden (OR)				Kennedy (RI)	Pickering	Weldon (PA)
Jones (NC)	Peterson (MN)	Walsh				Kildee	Platts	Weller
Jones (OH)	Peterson (PA)	Wamp				Kilpatrick (MI)	Poe	Wexler
Kanjorski	Pitts	Wasserman				Kind	Pombo	Whitfield
Kaptur	Platts	Schultz				King (NY)	Pomeroy	Wilson (NM)
Keller	Poe	Weldon (FL)				Kirk	Porter	Woolsey
Kelly	Pombo	Weldon (PA)				Kline	Price (NC)	Wu
Kennedy (MN)	Pomeroy	Weller				Kucinich	Pryce (OH)	Wynn
Kennedy (RI)	Porter	Wexler						
Kildee	Price (GA)	Whitfield						
Kilpatrick (MI)	Price (NC)	Wicker						
Kind	Pryce (OH)	Wilson (NM)						
King (NY)	Putnam	Wilson (SC)						
Kingston	Rahall	Wolf						
Kirk	Ramstad	Wynn						
Kline	Regula	Young (AK)						
Knollenberg	Rehberg	Young (FL)						
Kolbe	Reichert							

NOT VOTING—13

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1816

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. PICKERING. Madam Speaker, on roll-call No. 65, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 65 on final passage of H.R. 4939, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

MAKING AVAILABLE FUNDS FOR THE LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DRAKE). The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the Senate bill, S. 2320.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2320, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 287, nays 128, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 66]

YEAS—287

Abercrombie	Boozman	Clay
Allen	Boswell	Cleaver
Andrews	Boucher	Clyburn
Baca	Boyd	Conyers
Bachus	Bradley (NH)	Cooper
Baird	Brady (PA)	Costa
Baldwin	Brady (TX)	Costello
Barrow	Brown (OH)	Crowley
Bartlett (MD)	Brown, Corrine	Cuellar
Barton (TX)	Burgess	Culberson
Bass	Butterfield	Cummings
Bean	Camp (MI)	Davis (AL)
Beauprez	Capito	Davis (FL)
Becerra	Capps	Davis (KY)
Berkley	Capuano	Davis (TN)
Berman	Cardin	Davis, Jo Ann
Berry	Cardoza	Davis, Tom
Bilirakis	Carnahan	DeFazio
Bishop (GA)	Carson	DeGette
Bishop (NY)	Case	DeLahunt
Blumenauer	Castle	DeLauro
Boehlert	Chandler	DeLay

NAYS—128

Aderholt	Cantor	Gibbons
Akin	Carter	Gingrey
Alexander	Chabot	Gohmert
Baker	Chocola	Goode
Barrett (SC)	Cole (OK)	Goodlatte
Biggert	Conaway	Granger
Bishop (UT)	Crenshaw	Gutknecht
Blackburn	Cubin	Hall
Blunt	Deal (GA)	Harris
Boehner	Diaz-Balart, L.	Hastings (WA)
Bonilla	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hayworth
Bonner	Doolittle	Hefley
Bono	Emerson	Hensarling
Boustany	Everett	Herger
Brown (SC)	Feeney	Hobson
Brown-Waite,	Flake	Hoekstra
Ginny	Forbes	Hostettler
Burton (IN)	Fox	Hunter
Buyer	Franks (AZ)	Hyde
Calvert	Frelinghuysen	Issa
Campbell (CA)	Gallegly	Johnson, Sam
Cannon	Garrett (NJ)	King (IA)

Kingston Nunes Shays
Knollenberg Otter Sherwood
Kolbe Oxley Simpson
LaHood Paul Sodrel
Latham Pearce Souder
Lewis (CA) Pence Stearns
Linder Peterson (PA) Taylor (NC)
Lucas Pitts Terry
Lungren, Daniel Price (GA)
E. Putnam Thomas
Mack Regula Thornberry
Manzullo Rehberg Tiahrt
McCrery Renzi Tiberi
McHenry Rohrabacher Wamp
Mica Ros-Lehtinen Weldon (FL)
Miller (FL) Royce Westmoreland
Miller, Gary Ryan (WI) Wicker
Moran (KS) Ryan (KS) Wilson (SC)
Myrick Schmidt Wolf
Neugebauer Sensenbrenner Young (AK)
Northup Sessions Young (FL)
Norwood Shadegg

NOT VOTING—17

Ackerman Duncan Radanovich
Boren Evans Shimkus
Coble Hastings (FL) Sullivan
Cramer Istook Sweeney
Davis (CA) Lofgren, Zoe Tancredo
Davis (IL) McMorris

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised 2 minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1825

Mr. TERRY, Ms. HARRIS and Mr. ADERHOLT changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. SHUSTER changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds of those voting having responded in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 66 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 2320, I was on a leave of absence due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

Stated against:

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 66 I was inadvertently detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay.”

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 4297, TAX RELIEF EXTENSION RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to instruct on H.R. 4297 offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. TANNER) on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 222, nays 187, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 67]

YEAS—222

Abercrombie Gonzalez Obey
Allen Gordon Oliver
Andrews Green, Al Ortiz
Baca Green, Gene Owens
Baird Grijalva Pallone
Baldwin Gutierrez Pascarell
Barrow Gutknecht Pastor
Bean Harman Payne
Becerra Hefley Pelosi
Berkley Herseth Peterson (MN)
Berman Higgins Platts
Berry Hinchey Pomeroy
Bilirakis Hinojosa Price (GA)
Bishop (GA) Hoekstra Price (NC)
Bishop (NY) Holden Rahall
Blumenauer Holt Rangel
Boswell Honda Reyes
Boucher Hooley Ross
Boyd Hoyer Rothman
Bradley (NH) Inslee Roybal-Allard
Brady (PA) Israel Ruppersberger
Brown (OH) Jackson (IL) Rush
Brown, Corrine Jackson-Lee
Brown-Waite, (TX) Sabo
Ginny Jenkins Salazar
Butterfield Johnson, E. B. Sanchez, Linda
Capito Jones (NC) T.
Capps Jones (OH) Sanchez, Loretta
Canupano Kanjorski Sanders
Cardin Kaptur Schakowsky
Cardoza Kennedy (RI) Schiff
Carnahan Kildee Schwartz (PA)
Carson Kind Scott (GA)
Case Kucinich Scott (VA)
Chandler Langevin Serrano
Clay Lantos Sherman
Cleaver Larsen (WA) Simmons
Clyburn Larson (CT) Skelton
Conyers Leach Slaughter
Cooper Lee Smith (NJ)
Costa Levin Smith (WA)
Costello Lewis (GA) Snyder
Crowley LoBiondo Solis
Cuellar Lowey Spratt
Cummings Lynch Stark
Davis (AL) Maloney Strickland
Davis (FL) Markey Stupak
Davis (TN) Marshall Tanner
Davis, Tom Matheson Tauscher
DeFazio Matsui Taylor (MS)
DeGette McCarthy Thompson (CA)
DeLauro McColium (MN) Thompson (MS)
Delahunt McDermott Tierney
DeLauro McGovern Towns
Dicks McHugh Udall (CO)
Dingell McIntyre Udall (NM)
Doggett McKinney Upton
Doyle McNulty Van Hollen
Edwards Meehan Velázquez
Ehlers Meek (FL) Visclosky
Emanuel Meeke (NY) Wamp
Emerson Melancon Wasserman
Engel Michaud Schultz
Eshoo Millender Waters
Etheridge Farr McDonald
Farr Miller (NC) Watson
Fattah Miller, George Watt
Feeney Mollohan Waxman
Ferguson Mollohan Weiner
Filner Moore (KS) Weldon (PA)
Fitzpatrick (PA) Moore (WI) Wexler
Flake Moran (VA) Whitfield
Foley Moran (VA) Wolf
Ford Nadler Woolsey
Frank (MA) Napolitano Wu
Gerlach Neal (MA) Wynn
Gingrey Oberstar

NAYS—187

Aderholt Bono Crenshaw
Akin Boozman Cubin
Alexander Boustany Culberson
Bachus Brown (SC) Davis (KY)
Baker Burgess Davis, Jo Ann
Barrett (SC) Burton (IN) Deal (GA)
Bartlett (MD) Buyer DeLay
Barton (TX) Calvert Dent
Bass Camp (MI) Diaz-Balart, L.
Beauprez Campbell (CA) Diaz-Balart, M.
Biggert Cannon Doolittle
Bishop (UT) Cantor Drake
Blackburn Carter Dreier
Blunt Castle English (PA)
Boehlert Chabot Forbes
Boehner Chocola Fortenberry
Bonilla Cole (OK) Fossella
Bonner Conaway Foxx

Franks (AZ) LaTourette Reichert
Frelinghuysen Lewis (CA) Renzi
Gallegly Lewis (KY) Reynolds
Garrett (NJ) Linder Rogers (AL)
Gibbons Lucas Rogers (KY)
Gilchrest Lungren, Daniel Rogers (MI)
Gillmor E. Rohrabacher
Gohmert Mack Ros-Lehtinen
Goode Manzullo Royce
Goodlatte Marchant Ryan (WI)
Graves McCaul (TX) Ryun (KS)
Green (WI) McCotter Saxton
Hall McCrery Schmidt
Harris McHenry Schwarz (MI)
Hart Mica Sensenbrenner
Hastert Miller (FL) Sessions
Hastings (WA) Miller (MI) Shadegg
Hayes Miller, Gary Shaw
Hayworth Murphy Shays
Hensarling Murtha Sherwood
Herger Musgrave Shuster
Hobson Myrick Simpson
Hostettler Neugebauer Smith (TX)
Hulshof Ney Sodrel
Hunter Northup Souder
Hyde Norwood Stearns
Inglis (SC) Nunes Tancredo
Issa Nussle Taylor (NC)
Jindal Osborne Terry
Johnson (CT) Otter Thomas
Johnson (IL) Oxley Thomas
Johnson, Sam Paul Thornberry
Keller Pearce Tiahrt
Kelly Pence Tiberi
Kennedy (MN) Peterson (PA) Turner
King (IA) Petri Walden (OR)
King (NY) Pickering Walsh
Kingston Pitts Weldon (FL)
Kirk Poe Weller
Kline Porter Westmoreland
Knollenberg Pryce (OH) Wicker
Kolbe Putnam Wilson (NM)
Kuhl (NY) Ramstad Wilson (SC)
LaHood Regula Young (AK)
Latham Rehberg Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—24

Ackerman Evans Lofgren, Zoe
Boren Everrett McKeon
Brady (TX) Granger McMorris
Coble Hastings (FL) Pombo
Cramer Istook Radanovich
Davis (CA) Jefferson Shimkus
Davis (IL) Kilpatrick (MI) Sullivan
Duncan Lipinski Sweeney

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised 2 minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1833

So the motion to instruct was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PRIVILEGED REPORT ON RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. HUNTER, from the Committee on Armed Services, submitted an adverse privileged report (Rept. No. 109-397) on the resolution (H. Res. 685) requesting the President and directing the Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense provide to the House of Representatives certain documents in their possession relating to any entity with which the United States has contracted for public relations purposes concerning Iraq, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

PROVIDING FOR AN ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE TWO HOUSES

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I offer a privileged concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 361) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 361

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Thursday, March 16, 2006, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 28, 2006, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns on Thursday, March 16, 2006, Friday, March 17, 2006, or Saturday, March 18, 2006, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Monday, March 27, 2006, or such other time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2006

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today pursuant to this order, it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday, March 20, 2006, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in House Concurrent Resolution 361, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DRAKE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2006

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, March 29, 2006.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

HONORING ELEANOR SLATER

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to Eleanor Slater, a great friend who passed away this week. Known as the grande dame of Rhode Island Democratic politics, Eleanor blazed trails for many people in our state, but especially for women. She began her distinguished political career in 1958 as a Representative in the Rhode Island General Assembly, and championed issues such as mental health, fair housing and especially issues affecting senior citizens.

Always thinking of the next generation, she was a great advisor to many former and current politicians, including myself, Congressman PATRICK KENNEDY, and Senator JACK REED. She had the foresight and belief that I could run for Secretary of State and win that race, which I did. She served as an honorary chair on many of my campaigns and taught me valuable lessons that I still carry with me today.

While I am sad to say goodbye to such a wonderful woman, at 97 years old, we should celebrate Eleanor's long distinguished life. Eleanor, you made a difference. May God bless you and keep you safe in His care.

HONORING MR. LEROY ROBBINS

(Mr. FORTENBERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Speaker, I want to take a moment to honor the life of a very generous man whose service to his family and community made him extraordinary to those of us privileged to know him.

Mr. Leroy Robbins passed away on Sunday, March 5, 2006 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Mr. Robbins leaves behind his wife, Bernice, nine children, 28 grandchildren and 52 great grandchildren. Yet his legacy extend far beyond his own family.

Mr. Robbins was extraordinary because of his faithfulness in the simple and precious things in life. For more than 50 years, he served as a 4-H Livestock Club Leader.

As a child, I lost my own father and Mr. Robbins' mentorship helped to fill the profound loss created by that particular event. His kindness shined through as he opened his home, lovingly called "Robbins Roost" to 30 4-H club Members. He and Mrs. Robbins patiently taught us how to make things, how to improve ourselves and how to be leaders. He just helped us participate in the joy of discovery through the wonderful array of 4-H club opportunities.

Mr. Robbins was a man of generosity, compassion and integrity. In life he demonstrated what it meant to be extraordinary and undoubtedly, his legacy will live on in the lives of those he touched, particularly mine.

HONORING AMEDEE "DICK" RICHARDS, JR.

(Mr. SCHIFF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Amedee Richards, Jr., a treasured member of the South Pasadena community who died Thursday at the age of 84. He was a great man who served for many years as mayor, councilman, and as a small business owner, and he will long be remembered for his influential leadership and the preservation of South Pasadena.

Dick Richards was one of the first people I sought out years ago to get his advice on issues important to the city. He and I shared a background in law enforcement. He was an FBI agent, and I was a Federal prosecutor and we instantly hit it off. Over the years, I continued to turn to him and always valued his thoughtful counsel.

He led many communities endeavors, founding the South Pasadena Relay For Life, serving as President of the Mission West Association, and later, as a founding member of the New South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce. With his wife, Clara, he also opened Family Fair, a gift and candy store, as well as Buster's Ice Cream and Coffee Shop, which both immediately became South Pasadena landmarks. He also helped to start the weekly Farmers' Market in the Mission West District.

I want to express my sincere condolences to the entire family. Sadly, that tremendous family lost another member in the last few days. Dick's eldest son, Amedee III, passed away on Monday morning. My heart goes out to the entire Richards family, Dick's wife, Clara, two sons, six daughters and 15 grandchildren.

Dick called South Pasadena a kind of oasis. In this time of immense grief, I hope our community is comforted in knowing that Dick's legacy as a devoted public servant will live on in the vibrant oasis that he helped to create in South Pasadena.

I rise today to honor Amedee "Dick" Richards Jr., a treasured member of the South Pasadena community, who died Thursday at the age of 84. He was a great man who served for many years—as mayor, councilman, and as a small business owner—and will long be remembered for his influential leadership in the preservation of South Pasadena.

Dick Richards was one of the first people I sought out years ago for advice on issues important to the city. He and I shared a background in law enforcement (he was an FBI agent, and I was a federal prosecutor) and we instantly hit it off. Over the years, I continued to turn to him and always valued his thoughtful counsel. His work, his family, and indeed his life are tremendous examples of what makes South Pasadena such a strong community.

He led many community endeavors, founding the South Pasadena Relay for Life (an annual fundraiser for the American Cancer Society), serving as President of the Mission West Association, and later as a founding member of the New South Pasadena Chamber of

Commerce. With his wife Clara, he also opened Family Fair, a gift and candy store, as well as Buster's Ice Cream and Coffee Shop, which both immediately became instant South Pasadena landmarks. He also helped to start the weekly Farmers' Market in the Mission West District in 1999.

Dick was a man respected and admired by his colleagues and peers. Serving on the South Pasadena City Council from 1989 to 1997, he was admired for both his integrity and courage, always voting his conscience. Dick called South Pasadena a "kind of an oasis" and sought to preserve the small town characteristics that made it unique. Those who worked with him considered themselves fortunate, and as current Mayor Odom Stamps has acknowledged, Dick has "huge shoes that no one person will even remotely fill."

He was born in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1922 and graduated from Boston University in 1943. He then entered the Naval Reserve, serving during World War II in the Pacific theater as an ensign on a mine-sweeper. After WWII, he joined the FBI working specifically on Mafia cases and investigating the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy. He retired from the FBI in 1977, founding Family Fair that same year.

I want to express my sincere condolences to his entire family. And sadly, this tremendous family lost another member in the last few days. Dick's eldest son, Amedee III, passed away on Monday morning. My heart goes out to the entire Richards family, Dick's wife Clara, 2 sons, 6 daughters, and 15 grandchildren.

In this time of immense grief, I hope that our community is comforted in knowing that Dick's legacy as a devoted public servant will live on in the vibrant "oasis" that he created in South Pasadena.

APPOINTMENT OF HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT, HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON, AND HON. WAYNE T. GILCHREST TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS THROUGH MARCH 28, 2006

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 16, 2006.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ROBERT B. ADERHOLT, the Honorable MICHAEL K. SIMPSON, and the Honorable WAYNE T. GILCHREST to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through March 28, 2006.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the appointment is approved.

There was no objection.

REPORT ON THE NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY OF THE UNITED STATES—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message

from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with section 108 of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended (50 U.S.C. 404a), I am transmitting a report prepared by my Administration on the National Security Strategy of the United States.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 16, 2006.

AMERICA CAN DO BETTER

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, today and yesterday, we spent time on the floor of the House trying to construct a legislative initiative in the emergency supplemental to rebuild lives of Americans. We also attempted to respond to the rising crisis in Iraq. And I rise today to simply say that I know that America can do better.

In the course of that debate, I heard a story of a woman whose husband is in Iraq, and she is looking to try to understand where the funding is going, or where are the monies that have been appropriated going, because her husband is writing back and telling her about contaminated water and lack of equipment.

And then of course, I met a mother in my district who wondered why her son had to be redeployed for the third time to Iraq. I know America can do better. I am hoping as this emergency supplemental makes its way to the United States Senate that our colleagues, working with the administration, will understand that it is time now to redeploy our troops to bring them home in the honor and victory that they deserve, and then, of course, invest in the rebuilding of the Gulf Coast and not causing the stigmatizing of any of those who have suffered the devastation of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma, and certainly provide the funding that the State of Texas needs once and for all, a State that has been impacted in a devastating way as we host those who are in need. It is time to do better for Americans.

□ 1845

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DRAKE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will ap-

pear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

NEW YORK TROOPER ANDREW SPERR

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, I request permission to take Mr. JONES' time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

The Speaker pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor New York State Trooper Andrew Sperr. Each person who wears a badge walks a thin blue line between life and death. Their families wonder when their police officer reports for duty, if that person will return home.

On March 1, 2006, Trooper Sperr did not return. He was shot and killed in the line of duty during a blazing gun fight with bank robbers in Big Flats, New York. Just after noon, Andrew Sperr stopped to investigate a suspicious pickup truck on the side of the road. As he approached the vehicle, the robbery suspects opened the door and opened fire on him, striking him multiple times. At least one round struck him in the right side above his body armor.

He was a dedicated lawman, so Trooper Sperr was able to return fire, and he wounded both of the suspects, which eventually led to their arrest, even though he was mortally wounded himself. Andrew Sperr was 33 years of age. He was from Greece, New York, and he had been a member of the New York State police force for 10 years.

Though he had no kids of his own, he was greatly involved in lives of his 10 siblings and their kids, and was godfather to several of his nieces and nephews. He was known as AJ to close family and friends, and he was remembered as always being the center of all activity.

He spent his free time on his 80-acre farm in Steuben County, New York. He loved the outdoors and in his other free time he was a hunter and a wildlife photographer. As a young kid, Andrew Sperr had wanted to serve his community by becoming a peace officer.

In his life and his death, service was his mission. Friends family and co-workers remember him as a compassionate public servant who generally cared about the people he came in contact with on a daily basis, no matter who they were. He had recently won the outstanding trooper award for the second year in a row.

When terrorists struck the World Trade Center in New York City on September 11, 2001, Andrew Sperr was there. He volunteered to go and help the people of New York, as well as the citizens of the United States, by providing law enforcement in the aftermath of that attack on America.

Trooper Sperr also traveled to Louisiana this past fall in Hurricane Katrina and helped those folks in that area, neighbors.

Madam Speaker, as a former judge in Texas, I have had the opportunity to speak several times in New York and to the troopers at the New York State Police Academy in Albany, New York. After we got through the language barrier, I found these right-thinking Americans to be passionate about protecting the citizens of New York State and bringing outlaws to justice.

Trooper Andrew Sperr was proud to be a member of this group of law officers. Trooper Andrew Sperr died doing what he wanted to do, protecting, serving and defending the people. As thousands of his fellow State troopers, law enforcement personnel, friends and family, mourn his loss, our prayers go out to his family for allowing his life to be sacrificed for the rest of us.

Andrew J. Sperr was a dedicated officer and a compassionate friend to all. He served with distinction and honor, and he will be missed. America and Americans were better because of the life of Andrew Sperr. He wore the badge and proudly took the oath to protect and serve.

Madam Speaker, peace officers are the last strand of wire in the fence between safety and anarchy. They are all that stands between the people and the barbarians. Trooper Andrew Sperr died protecting the rest of us from those outlaws.

So God bless those that wear the badge of the American peace officer. That's just the way it is.

PORT SECURITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, many Americans are breathing a sigh of relief. They believe we have resolved the issue of port security, but that is far from the truth. True, for now, the idea of United Arab Emirates operating some of our port terminals has abated. But this is very much just a very small issue regarding port security.

The fact is, our ports are probably today very little less secure than pre-9/11. The grades that the 9/11 Commission give to this administration's efforts on port security were generally failing.

The United States has bound itself to an international agreement through the International Maritime Organization that allowed secret ownership of ships. Osama bin Laden could have a fleet of his own. We are not allowed to know. They fly under flags that countries that provide no supervision, in fact, in the case of Liberia, until recently, didn't even have a government, and barely exist.

They have crews of unknown identity. Yes, they send us a name about the ship lands, but is that really the person. Is that really the background.

Do we have fingerprints? No. We don't know who the people are on those ships. The cargo on those ships is not secure. The containers are not secure. It would cost a few dollars to secure a container from loading to unloading in the United States of America and scan it. The Bush administration thinks that is a cost that we cannot afford or would unnecessarily impinge upon free commerce.

Then, of course, the technology, the technology that we don't have at the ports, to adequately scan these containers. Now, we cannot breathe a sigh of relief. Our ports are not yet secure. We depend upon a transmitted manifest. Now, I can just see that the Osama bin Laden line with the terrorist crew is going to send a manifest that says this container has 199 concrete bird baths and one small tactical nuclear weapon, and our intelligence people might even ask to open that container. Who knows, they might not. So we need to do a tremendous amount more.

Then there is another issue. The Bush administration, while Congress is away next week, is intending to put forward a rule that would allow foreign interests to control United States airlines in contravention of a very explicit law which prohibits control by foreign interests. The Bush Administration, using their inherent powers, has decided to reinterpret the meaning of the word control and say Congress just meant they can't control safety and security. We will wall that off.

How are you going to wall it off when you have foreign ownership of a U.S. airline, foreign management and a U.S. airline, foreign board of directors of a formerly U.S. airline, and you are going to wall off safety and security? Oh, come on, give me a break. As the chief operating officer of Continental said, hey, they are against this. They said, hey, I am head of safety, I am the COO, safety and security report to me. I can get someone to do whatever I want in that job, or I will fire them.

That is an extraordinary risk. It risks our civilian reserve air fleet, where we move our troops overseas. Just imagine a future deployment, say to maybe the Taiwan area with a problem with China, and the U.S. troops could be flying on an airline that was owned and controlled by Chinese communist government interests under this rule, which the Bush Administration wants to push through. Or it could be a UAE crew from Dubai, because they are the fastest expanding long-haul airline in the world, with all of their billions of surplus dollars.

We cannot rest easy, because the Bush Administration is continuing to dismantle critical infrastructure. We need a general review of critical infrastructure in this country, and we need to safeguard it. They are saying, no, we shouldn't do that. They are hoping to put the Dubai deal off, you know, and that we will not pay any attention to the threats at our ports or the threats

to our airlines and aviation industry, or maybe even under the Bush administration, we will sell our nuclear plants to foreign interests.

Wouldn't that be spiffy if we allowed foreign interests to own our nuclear plants? That would be really, really great for security here in the United States of America. America should not be for sale. It is a symptom of a failed trade policy, and this Bush administration just wants to do more of the same. It is time for change. It is time for new trade policy. It is time to keep bringing jobs home. It is time to make America secure, and it is time to secure our assets.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DREIER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

REMARKS ON THE IRISH PEACE PROCESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening as we approach the St. Patrick's Day recess to remind this body of the continued struggle for peace and justice in the North of Ireland. For many in America of Irish ancestry, this is a time of celebration, as it should be. However, we must also recognize that the fight for freedom and equality on the island of Ireland is still being waged.

Tonight I want to remember and commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Easter Uprising and the proclamation of an Irish Republic at the General Post Office in 1916. The brave men and women who took up arms against England vowed to fight for religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities for all Irish citizens.

This year also marks the 25th anniversary of the deaths of 10 brave men who died on a hunger strike in Long Kesh. Their courage and that of the women of Armagh inspired countless individuals and made the world take notice of the cruel and discriminatory policies of the British government in the North of Ireland. Their sacrifice proved the shortsightedness of a British policy criminalization.

Madam Speaker, I had the opportunity today to meet once again with Gerry Adams, whom I admire so much, for his continued determination to educate the Members of Congress about the situation in Northern Ireland. Because of the sacrifice of so many dedicated individuals like Gerry Adams over the years, we have seen great strides on the quest for an Ireland of equals.

The historic ceasefire by the IRA in 1994, followed by the Good Friday accords signed in 1998, created tremendous progression in the north. The

IRA's recent decision to lay down their weapons and pursue exclusively peaceful means toward the goal of a united Ireland is yet another hopeful sign.

However there still remains much to be done. The Good Friday agreement must be implemented in full. Any attempt to walk away from the institutions set forth in the agreement or substitute them with something less is a mistake. It is designed to placate extremists who want to fight progress and maintain their superiority. This simply cannot be allowed to stand.

Responsible leaders on all sides and on all parties must recognize that a quality in progress is inevitable and give the people of Northern Ireland the democracy that they deserve now.

Madam Speaker, I have consistently called for the full implementation of the Patten recommendations on policing because I believe true peace cannot exist without justice. This will not happen until there is a fair and impartial police service representative of all the communities in the North.

A dismantling of the British war machine in towns like South Armagh and Crossmaglen need to happen now so that residents there can live in peace and without fear of violence from a government supposedly there to protect them.

With a history of collusion between the RUC and loyalists paramilitaries, a full, complete and independent inquiry must also be done into if death of Pat Finucan, murdered by paramilitaries in front of his young family.

Madam Speaker, 25 years ago, as Bobby Sands sat in his cell on a hunger strike, he wrote in his diary, and I quote, if they aren't able to destroy the desire for freedom, they won't break you. They won't break me, because the desire for freedom and the freedom of the Irish people is in my heart. The day will dawn when all the people of Ireland will have the desire for freedom to show.

Madam Speaker, the British and Irish governments must recognize that the desire for freedom is as strong today as it ever was, and it will not be destroyed. The historic moves by the IRA and the electoral gains made by Sinn Fein are evidence of this desire. People will simply not tolerate a return to the conditions that have plagued the North for so many years.

PROTECTING THE CROWN JEWEL OF AMERICA'S SPACE PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, last week was one of extraordinary triumph for the Nation's space program. On Thursday, NASA announced that the Cassini spacecraft may have found evidence of liquid water reservoirs that erupt in Yellowstone-Like geysers on Saturn's moon Enceladus. This stunning announcement was followed the next day by the successful orbital in-

sertion of the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter around the Red Planet.

I stand before the House today to celebrate these incredible technological achievements and wondrous scientific discoveries, but most of all, to honor those who made it possible, the men and women of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California.

JPL, which is managed for NASA by the California Institute of Technology, has designed, built and controlled many of America's most successful unmanned space craft. JPL has pioneered our exploration of space from Explorer 1, America's first satellite, to Ranger and Surveyor craft that paved the way for Apollo to the Voyager spacecraft that explore the outer planets and are still continuing to send back data even as they leave our solar system.

JPL missions have increased our comprehension beyond anything even contemplated half a century ago. Every American space probe that has visited another body our solar system was managed by JPL. Through the wonders of technology, we have circled Jupiter with Galileo, sampled a comet with Stardust and rolled across the surface of Mars with spirit and opportunity. Cassini, which has been orbiting Saturn for just over 18 months, has transmitted stunning photographs and invaluable data on Saturn and its moons, while the Mar's Reconnaissance Orbiter, which will begin its science mission later this year, is expected to transmit more information about Mars than all of our previous Mars missions combined.

□ 1900

JPL's spectacular missions have not only brought us incalculable scientific data; they have also sustained America's interest in space flight, especially the Mars missions.

Now, as NASA prepares to accelerate the development of the Crew Exploration Vehicle and moves forward with plans to return humans to the Moon, the space agency and Congress must take care to continue to provide adequate resources to support the robotic exploration of space that is JPL's specialty.

Over the past months, NASA has worked to put into place a comprehensive program aimed at realizing the President's goal of landing an American on Mars. This is an ambitious and worthy goal, but the technological and physiological challenges, not to mention the cost, mean that it may be decades before an American walks on the Martian surface.

In the interim, we can continue to explore the Red Planet and our neighbors with relatively inexpensive probes that are better equipped than humans to survive the extreme hardship of long-duration space travel.

Madam Speaker, as we consider the future of our space program, I urge NASA and my colleagues not to deprive JPL, one of the crown jewels of American science and technology, of

adequate resources. The Mars program is one of the centerpieces of JPL's focus and the lab has several exciting missions planned for the next couple decades.

But even as JPL unlocks the secrets of our planetary neighbors, it is poised to begin an ambitious search for habitable worlds around the stars, a search that will help to answer one of humankind's oldest questions: Are we alone in the universe?

SIM PlanetQuest scheduled for launch in the middle of the next decade will precisely determine the distances to stars throughout our galaxy and will probe nearby stars for Earth-sized planets. SIM will open a window to a new world of discoveries.

The Mars program and SIM PlanetQuest are ambitious and resource-intensive missions with long lead times. JPL has also been a leading NASA center for the Explorer that in the past has offered opportunities to carry out small and medium-sized missions that can be developed and launched in a short timeframe.

The Explorer program engages academia, industry, NASA centers and government labs in strong partnerships that provide young engineers, scientists, and managers the opportunity to develop and gain valuable experience on missions from inception to launch.

Unfortunately, as a result of budget cuts over the last few years, this important program is quietly being phased out. But I believe that we must consider the significant and damaging effect this will have on NASA's scientific and technological program.

I am especially concerned about the recent decision to terminate the NuSTAR mission before its interim confirmation review. This action will have permanent damaging consequences as it is causing the scientific community as well as industry to question the reliability of NASA as a partner and the wisdom of investing internal resources in the proposal development process.

The termination calls NASA's commitment to the peer review selection process into serious question and illustrates, in my view, a lack of appreciation of the serious investment made by the team at NASA to date.

While I understand that NASA is facing difficult budgetary decisions, the priorities must be set, it would be a severe blow to NASA science to allow such a low-cost, productive, and unique program like Explorers to be so severely cut. In particular the unprecedented action taken with NuSTAR will have lasting consequences for all future competed missions.

Madam Speaker, the decisions we make this year will have profound implications for the future of America's space program. Even as we celebrate JPL's most recent successes, I urge NASA and my colleagues to work to ensure JPL's leadership in exploring our solar system and the Universe beyond.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DRAKE). Under a previous order of the

House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK GULF TRIP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I am taping or putting up here a Web site that will help to pay tribute to over 200 students, professors, and other citizens from Ohio's universities, schools, and just citizens interested who traveled to the gulf in our country on an alternative spring break.

Called Rockets on the Road to Compassion, the University of Toledo's alternative spring break directed the efforts of over 200 Americans in helping the hurricane-ravaged areas of the gulf. To learn more about what they did and are doing, go to the Web site www.UToledo.edu/springbreak. I will keep repeating that tonight.

From March 3 through March 11, these magnificent Americans traveled to Florida, Louisiana, Alabama, Texas, Mississippi, and Georgia. The UT chapter of Campus Crusade for Christ sent 65 students to Pass Christian, Mississippi, where Katrina's eye made landfall.

The UT's Catholic Student Association sent 20 students to help build homes in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida. Donovan Nichols, a University of Toledo graduate student and AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer, led coordination efforts for 104 participants spread across five locations devastated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita: Bay St. Louis, Mississippi; Bayou LaBatre, Alabama; Orange, Texas; Lake Charles; as well as Metairie in Louisiana.

Organizers and chaperones included Dr. Celia Regimbal, tenured University of Toledo professor in health sciences, and Reverend Dee Baker, the director of the Toledo Campus Ministry on the campus. America thanks all of them.

The world can learn more about their journey by looking at their Web site, www.utoledo.edu/springbreak. Some of the hundreds and thousands and stories from the gulf are reflected by what they did.

We recall with them the words: America is only as great as she is good. I know that their goal is to help follow through on this journey, to tell other Americans what happened so they can follow suit and to help us as we continue relating to these communities.

Let me just read some of the excerpts on this blog. From Dr. Celia Regimbal, University of Toledo professor, assigned to Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. She says, it has taken 21 of us 3 days to

remove siding and get felt paper up. How long would it take one person? How long would it take to replace your neighborhood?

There is not a house in Bay St. Louis and Waveland that has not suffered some damage. We are guessing that 30 percent of the homes are totally gone. It will take years to rebuild the coast. We cannot forget that the folks here will continue to need our help.

Terrance Teagarden, who was assigned to New Orleans, wrote: between the two crews we have got operating right now down here, we look to have two houses gutted and a decent start on two more. Three houses gutted by crews of about 10 in 4 days' time. At this rate, he says, it will take years to get things back to normal here.

I saw President Bush and his escort fly over on a helicopter yesterday morning before we began our work. I heard the President say at a press conference awhile back he would love to bring his family here. Not in this condition he would not. Mr. President, he says, please come down to the 9th Ward and work with us, or any crew of volunteers for one day. I guarantee you will think differently of the progress made.

Then the young man says, honestly, pointing fingers will not help anyone anymore right now. We need thousands, droves, of Americans staying in tents and parks and churches all over the gulf region just helping to gut, prepare for inspection, and rebuild houses.

Through all of this, it has been the efforts of grass-roots organizations that have really gotten things done. Right now there is a need for playground items such as Hula-Hoops, balls. Schools and churches also need supplies to rebuild.

Donovan Nichols, who was assigned to Lake Charles, Louisiana, said, prior to Hurricane Rita, this town of Cameron had a population of roughly 2,000 people clinging to the edge of the Gulf of Mexico. Now, aside from relief workers, the community is deserted. While working on the roof at the house in Starks, two separate individuals dropped by asking us for help.

They described how they were not eligible for any FEMA money, but they really needed help. They sent them to some local churches for help.

Mary Ellen Edwards in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, says: our group here in Bay St. Louis spent part of yesterday and today helping a family of five who were trying to get their uninhabitable house cleaned up.

Madam Speaker, I know my time is expired, but I would like to place all of the remarks in the RECORD and ask the American people to look at www.utoledo.edu/springbreak. Please help Ohioans rebuild the gulf.

Today we also helped out the whole community by cleaning the debris off of the beach. The community gets a reduction in the loans it has gotten from FEMA to help out the people in Hancock County for each hour of work volunteers do in beach clean up. Celia Re-

gimbal set this up through the environmental staff person from Congressman GENE TAYLOR's office.

If the role of the government is to provide for the common good, the Federal Government just cannot seem to get much of a handle on this problem. Perhaps it is too worried about the media spin, its image, and pointing fingers than really working on solving the problem.

Imagine, by Neda Archie in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi:

Actually seeing the devastation has humbled me. The first day we drove through town I had no words. I felt every emotion possible to feel therefore I just looked with a kind of blank stare in disbelief. You don't know anything until you actually see it with your own eyes.

Imagine what is now trash and rubble used to be your prized possessions, your family photographs, your favorite pair of shoes, an old staircase from the house your family grew up in, and not your roof but your neighbors roof. Imagine trying to salvage and dry out a little piece of your life that existed before the devastation.

Imagine your schools you graduated from, the bridges you used to cross, the trees you used to climb, and the flowers that used to bloom are non-existent. Imagine losing some of your friends and loved ones. Imagine 75 percent of your town is gone.

Reflections by Danselle in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi:

These past few days have taught us all a valuable lesson, humility. This street was once where beach houses, mansions, and beautiful summer homes once dwelled. Now there's nothing but the Gulf. I expected to come down here and see at least a house fixture, but that's barely possible even 6 months later.

Most of the homes have been here for over 100 years, passed down through generations. These homes are extremely too expensive to replace, so most people have to settle with a home that's a lot cheaper.

The residents here in Bay St. Louis have experienced the absolute worst in wind damage, and were basically forgotten all about. We have been described as elephant biters. Katrina was like a big elephant dropped onto the entire coast, and we are here to bite chunks out of this elephant until it's completely gone.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair and not to persons outside the Chamber.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MCHENRY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE IRAQ WAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, this weekend will mark the third anniversary of the Iraq war, and I am still

wondering, more importantly the majority of the American people are wondering, why we went there, and what we are still doing there.

Remember, we were told this was going to be a walk in the park, in and out in a flash. A few thousand troops and a few million dollars, no sweat. Well, now it has been 3 years, and if we are not out by the end of this year, 2006, our troops will have been fighting in Iraq longer than their grandparents fought in World War II.

More than 2,300 Americans dead; tens of thousands wounded; tens of thousands, maybe even hundreds of thousands, of Iraqi civilians killed; over a quarter billion dollars spent, and for what? So we can lose all stature and credibility around the world? So we can give rise to an insurgency that shows no signs of abating? So we can inspire even greater hatred of the United States among violent jihadists in the Muslim world? Or so we can throw gasoline on the fire of sectarian strife in Iraq and further ignite a civil war?

Yesterday's Washington Post reports at least 86 bodies found in Iraq, many of them in a mass grave, many of them having been strangled or tortured. And today the biggest air offensive since the beginning of this mistake.

When is enough enough, Madam Speaker? How many more Presidential speeches? How many more half-baked platitudes about the march of freedom?

Just two days ago at George Washington University, the President said: "The work ahead in Iraq is hard." But it was his administration that assured us 3 years ago of just the opposite, that this was going to be easy. "We will complete the mission," he said yesterday. But in May 2003, he was declaring "mission accomplished," in fact, draping an aircraft carrier with those very words.

The real tragedy is that our Nation will be living with this disastrous fallout from this war for generations. The money we have spent on this war is money we do not have and will not have for investments in our people, their health care, their education, their retirement, their job training, and, yes, their security.

The unspeakable, despicable acts of torture that took place at Abu Ghraib have robbed us of our moral authority. The very foundations of freedom have been threatened by the PATRIOT Act and the President's defiance of the rule of law on domestic surveillance.

The trumped-up weapons of mass destruction intelligence and the fabrication about an Iraqi link to 9/11 have damaged the trust between America and its leaders, trust that is critical to a thriving democracy.

And on a very basic human level, what about men and women who come back from Iraq shattered by the experience? Even if they make it home with all of their limbs functioning and intact, what about the psychological demons that come home with them?

These brave patriots need medical help if they are going to lead a productive civilian life, but according to a recent study by the military, they are not getting it.

□ 1915

Although one-third of returning Iraq and Afghanistan veterans are seeking mental health services, the great majority of those who are diagnosed with psychiatric problems are going untreated.

A lot of damage has been done, Madam Speaker, and there is a lot of work ahead: work to repair our troops, our principles, and our reputation. But there is one thing we could do right now to stem the tide, to contain the damage, to literally stop the bleeding. We could and we should bring our troops home now.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. DRAKE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. FOXX addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. VAN HOLLEN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BISHOP of Utah addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. EMANUEL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SAVING LIVES THROUGH LEGISLATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I came here to Washington to do everything I could to reduce gun violence in this country; and unfortunately, the atmosphere that is here is preventing me from doing that.

There are many out there that say I am out there to try to take away the right of someone to own a gun, and yet I have never introduced any kind of legislation that would do any such thing.

What I am trying to do is save lives. What I am trying to do is certainly try

to keep medical costs down. We have come to an agreement, many Members in this Chamber, on legislation I introduced a couple of years ago. The reason behind this legislation was because, unfortunately, there was another shooting in my district and two of my parishioners were killed. And the sad story is it could have been prevented.

Peter Troy, who is someone that had a very long mental health background, and he also had a restraining order from his mother against him because of his violent acts, was able to go into a store and legally buy a gun. He was able to do this because the State, my State of New York, did not put the information into the State system that was supposed to go into the NICS system.

This is happening every single day across this Nation. We looked into it and figured how can we change this. So we started looking at the different States. We saw that some States hardly had any records in the NICS system that had anything to do with domestic violence. We saw also that many States did not put anything in on those that were convicted of felonies. So we came up with legislation that we thought would help to reduce crime in this country.

We came up with legislation that we knew if we could keep guns out of illegal hands, those that should not be able to buy a gun, we could save lives. And if we could save lives, we are hoping also we could save injuries, and this way it is a win-win situation for everyone in our community.

I am hoping before the Memorial Day recess that I will be able to get my legislation back on to the floor for a vote. It did pass in 1997, and we had it on a voice vote because everybody agreed with it.

Now, I know our time down here is very short. We are going on another break this very week. For the 10 years that I have been here in Washington, we have never had a break in March. I wish we could be staying so we could continue to work to do the people's work.

I guess what I want to talk about is that we could have reasonable laws that could help people, save people's lives and make a difference in someone's life. We can do this without certainly infringing on anyone's second amendment rights.

The NICS bill that I am proposing would help our States bring their data up to speed. We all know that computers and the Internet are moving very rapidly, but a computer is only as good as the information in it. What I propose, and what had been accepted here in this House, would give the States the money so that when someone is convicted of a crime that would make them ineligible to be able to buy a gun, that would immediately go into the system. This is a win-win situation for everyone.

Back in my State of New York we are seeing more and more illegal guns coming into my city. It is probably happening in a lot of other States. It is only a small percentage of those bad people that are buying these illegal guns that we can stop.

Madam Speaker, there are so many things we could do to stop gun violence in this country, to make a difference. And I know it is not on the top of the list of everybody in this country. I know the majority of people are struggling to just get through their day, working, coming home, taking care of the family, doing everything that a family should be doing because they honestly feel that we as politicians are down here protecting them.

We talk about homeland security. We talk about possible terrorists in this country, and yet we make it so easy for those out there to buy guns.

Madam Speaker, I hope we can make a difference. I hope we can change the dialogue. I hope we can save lives. I hope we can prevent injuries.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. McDERMOTT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. DELAURO addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Ms. MCKINNEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. MCKINNEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ addressed the House. Her remarks will

appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

BRAIN AWARENESS WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. KENNEDY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge Brain Awareness Week, which reminds us that neuroscience research is critical to the health of U.S. global competitiveness and much of this research is done by the National Institutes of Health.

As Members of Congress, many of us from both sides of the aisle make a commitment to doubling the NIH budget, and many of us now wonder what do we get for what we paid for.

Some are asking this and I have asked them to look at www.SFN.org, which stands for the Society of Neuroscience which has produced 24 separate brain research success stories. Behind me here you see some of the incredible technology that is giving rise to research in the brain by helping us through PET scans and fMRIs, looking into the brain as we have never been able to do before.

These discoveries have allowed us to develop treatments that reduce the severity of symptoms for those suffering from Parkinson's, those suffering from affective disorders. We have seen a whole new class of anti-depressants that produce fewer side effects than their predecessors. We have also seen great breakthroughs in the identification of new stroke treatment and prevention methods, and we have seen the creation of ways to help prevent epileptic seizures, as well as expansion of treatments for psychotic symptoms and schizophrenia. Research brings hope and improves the lives of millions of Americans.

Madam Speaker, in this country mental illnesses comprise the second leading cause of lost work days in our country. Suicide in this country is twice the rate of homicide. We lose 34,000 people a year to suicide. The fact of the matter is we have 1,300 young people every single day who try to take their lives in this country. And yet we can reach into this brain science, find and discover ways to help reduce the severity of mental illness and address the needs that people have that cause them to suffer so greatly.

Madam Speaker, I would just point once again to the fact that we have had technology thanks to the National Institutes of Mental Health, the National Institute of Drug Addiction, the National Institute of Alcoholism that has demonstrated to us that we are going to see great promise. But we need the American people to call their Members of Congress and say to their Members of Congress, we want full funding for mental health research and neuroscience.

We have come too far to step back now. Anybody watching this program

needs to call their Members of Congress, their Senator and their Representative, and say we do not want to take a step backward in brain research. We want us to go forward to help solve the many mysteries of the brain and the suffering that is going out around this country from those who are suffering from mental illness.

Madam Speaker, we also need them to ask for parity for mental health coverage, which means equal insurance coverage for mental illness as every other physical illness. You cannot look at these poster boards and not tell me that mental illness is physical illness.

It is not a sign of a character defect if they are depressed, if they are suffering from mental illness. It is a sign that they need the kind of attention to the organ, which is their brain, the organ which is their brain that too often has been associated with stigma and stereotype that has guided our policymaking too much of the time; and as a result we spend less than four of every 100 of your dollars at NIH studying brain diseases even though they comprise the second leading cause of lost days in this country.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Brain Awareness Week and join me in helping to continue the research, the very promising work that is going on in our institutes of health that help us find the discoveries that we need in order to relieve the suffering of millions of Americans.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. DAVIS of California (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of illness.

Mr. SHIMKUS (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today after 3:00 p.m. on account of overseeing elections in Belarus.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DEFAZIO) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. VAN HOLLEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MCCARTHY, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. McDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. DELAURO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MCKINNEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at the request of Mr. POE) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BISHOP of Utah, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

Mrs. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a joint resolution of the House of the following title, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.J. Res. 47. Joint resolution increasing the statutory limit on the public debt.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of today, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Accordingly, pursuant to the previous order of the House of today, the House stands adjourned until noon on Monday, March 20, 2006, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 361, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

Thereupon (at 7 o'clock and 27 minutes p.m.), pursuant to the previous order of the House of today, the House adjourned until noon on Monday, March 20, 2006, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 361, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

6721. A letter from the Administrator, FSIS, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Changes in Fees for Meat, Poultry, and Egg Products Inspection Services—Fiscal Years 2006-2008 [Docket No. 03-027F; FDMS Docket Number FSIS-2005-0025] (RIN: 0583-AD12) received February 21, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6722. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Add Kazakhstan, Romania, Russia, Turkey, and Ukraine to List of Regions in Which Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Subtype H5N1 is Considered to Exist [Docket No. APHIS-2006-0010] received February 15, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6723. A letter from the Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final

rule—TRICARE; Revision of Participating Providers Reimbursement Rate; TRICARE Dental Program (TDP) [DOD-2006-OS-002] (RIN: 0720-AA92) received February 22, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

6724. A letter from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule—Delegation of Insuring Authority to Direct Endorsement Mortgages; Announcement of Information Collection Effective Date [Docket No. FR-4169-F-04] (RIN: 2502-AG87) received February 27, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

6725. A letter from the Assistant to the Board, Federal Reserve Board, transmitting the Board's final rule—Risk-Based Capital Guidelines; Market Risk Measure; Securities Borrowing Transactions [Regulation H and Y; Docket No. R-1087] received February 27, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

6726. A letter from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Revised Regulations Governing Small Power Production and Cogeneration Facilities [Docket No. RM05-36-000; Order No. 671] received February 27, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6727. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule—Microbiology Devices; Reclassification of Hepatitis A Virus Serological Assays [Docket No. 2003P-0564] received February 28, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6728. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Clarification to the Export Administration Regulations; General Order to Implement the Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Act [Docket No. 051230351-5351-01] (RIN: 0694-AD68) received February 22, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on International Relations.

6729. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting a copy of D.C. ACT 16-293, "DC-USA Economic Development Act of 2006," pursuant to D.C. Code section 1-233(c)(1); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6730. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General for Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule—Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation [AAG/A Order No. 004-2006] received February 27, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6731. A letter from the Assistant Attorney General for Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule—Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation [AAG/A Order No. 019-2005] received January 6, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

6732. A letter from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule—Termination of Federal Enforcement for Parts of the Missouri Permanent Regulatory Program and Return of Full Regulatory Authority to the State of Missouri [Docket No. MO-738] received January 26, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Resources.

6733. A letter from the Director, NIST, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule—Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships (SURF) Gai-thersburg and Boulder Programs; Avail-

ability of Funds [Docket No. 051222346-5346-01] received February 3, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Science.

6734. A letter from the Office of Regulations Policy and Management, VBA, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule—Dependency and Indemnity Compensation: Surviving Spouse's Rate; Payments Based on Veteran's Entitlement to Compensation for Service-Connected Disability Rated Totally Disabling for Specified Periods Prior to Death (RIN: 2900-AL86) received February 1, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

6735. A letter from the Assistant Director, Directives and Regulations Branch, Office of Regulatory and Management Services, USDA Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Travel Management; Designated Routes and Areas for Motor Vehicle Use (RIN: 0596-AC11) received January 24, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Agriculture and Resources.

6736. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule—Medicare Program; Medicare Secondary Payer Amendments [CMS-6272-IFC] (RIN: 0938-AN27) received February 27, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. SENSENBRENNER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 4709. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to strengthen protections for law enforcement officers and the public by providing criminal penalties for the fraudulent acquisition or unauthorized disclosure of phone records (Rept. 109-395). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia: Supplementary Report and Document Annex by the Select Bipartisan Committee to Investigate the Preparation for and Response to Hurricane Katrina (Rept. 109-396). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. HUNTER: Committee on Armed Services. House Resolution 685. Resolution requesting the President and directing the Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense provide to the House of Representatives certain documents in their possession relating to any entity with which the United States has contracted for public relations purposes concerning Iraq; adversely (Rept. 109-397). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. KIRK:

H.R. 4972. A bill to permit certain school districts in Illinois to be reconstituted for purposes of determining assistance under the Impact Aid program; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. BAKER (for himself and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts):

H.R. 4973. A bill to restore the financial solvency of the national flood insurance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HYDE (for himself and Mr. LAN-TOS) (both by request):

H.R. 4974. A bill to authorize the President to waive the application of certain requirements under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 with respect to India; to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DREIER (for himself, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, and Mr. HASTINGS of Washington):

H.R. 4975. A bill to provide greater transparency with respect to lobbying activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, Rules, Government Reform, and Standards of Official Conduct, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself and Mr. FLAKE):

H.R. 4976. A bill to reiterate that chapters 119 and 121 of title 18, United States Code, and the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 are the exclusive means by which domestic electronic surveillance may be conducted, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas (for herself, Mr. HALL, Mr. REYES, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. BACA, and Mr. ORTIZ):

H.R. 4977. A bill to place a 2-year moratorium on certain contracts to conduct port operations in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on International Relations, and Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas:

H.R. 4978. A bill to require the Comptroller General to conduct a study on the extent to which security operations at United States seaports are managed by nationals of foreign countries and other related matters; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. PICKERING:

H.R. 4979. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to clarify the preference for local firms in the award of certain contracts for disaster relief activities; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BASS (for himself, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BOEHLERT, and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas):

H.R. 4980. A bill to allow employees of Federally-qualified health centers to obtain health coverage under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. KUHLMAN of New York (for himself, Mr. MATHESON, and Mr. ABERCROMBIE):

H.R. 4981. A bill to amend the National Dam Safety Program Act; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. BEAN:

H.R. 4982. A bill to improve public awareness in the United States regarding safe use of the Internet through the establishment of an Office of Internet Safety and Public Awareness within the Federal Trade Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 4983. A bill to recognize the exemplary service of the National Guard in Iraq and to direct the President to begin the redeployment of United States military forces from Iraq, starting with National Guard units; to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4984. A bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to enhance the protection of credit ratings of active duty military personnel who are activated for military service; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BRADY of Texas (for himself, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, and Mr. HULSHOF):

H.R. 4985. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the employment tax treatment and reporting of wages paid by professional employer organizations; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN:

H.R. 4986. A bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Transportation to prioritize maritime transportation security grants based on the risks and vulnerabilities of ports and the proximity of ports to critical infrastructure or urban or sensitive areas; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. HAYES:

H.R. 4987. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide an increased maximum penalty for telemarketing fraud targeting seniors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Government Reform, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HEFLEY (for himself, Mr. HULSHOF, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BEAUPREZ, and Mr. UDALL of Colorado):

H.R. 4988. A bill to amend the Rules of the House of Representatives to strengthen the ethics process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules, and in addition to the Committees on Standards of Official Conduct, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HOLT:

H.R. 4989. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to clarify the treatment of provisional ballots cast in elections for Federal office, to ensure that polling places are adequately staffed and have sufficient equipment, to direct States to issue durable voter registration cards to each individual

who registers to vote in elections for Federal office in the State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 4990. A bill to provide for the establishment by the Secretary of Energy of a program of Federal support for local governments that establish Clean Energy Bond Acts; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. JEFFERSON (for himself, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. FORD, Mr. WATT, Mr. OWENS, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, and Mr. TOWNS):

H.R. 4991. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to carry out a program to temporarily make payments under residential mortgage loans for properties significantly damaged by Hurricane Katrina; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. KELLY (for herself and Mr. BASS):

H.R. 4992. A bill to provide for Medicare reimbursement for health care services provided to Medicare-eligible veterans in facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. LAN-TOS, Mrs. MALONEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. KIND, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. STARK, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WEINER, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. OWENS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. TOWNS, and Mr. RANGEL):

H.R. 4993. A bill to amend the Social Security Act to enhance the Social Security of the Nation by ensuring adequate public-private infrastructure and to resolve to prevent, detect, treat, intervene in, and prosecute elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Energy and Commerce, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky:

H.R. 4994. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to exempt complex rehabilitation products and assistive technology products from the Medicare competitive acquisition program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. LOWEY (for herself, Mr. KUHLMAN of New York, Mr. OWENS, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. HIGGINS, Mrs. MCCARTHY, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. WEINER, Mr. SWEENEY, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. NADLER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. WALSH, Mr. REYNOLDS, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. MEEKS of New York, and Mr. TOWNS):

H.R. 4995. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7

Columbus Avenue in Tuckahoe, New York, as the "Ronald Bucca Post Office"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mrs. LOWEY (for herself and Mr. BISHOP of New York):

H.R. 4996. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend the employer subsidy payment provisions under the Medicare prescription drug program to State Pharmaceutical Assistance Programs; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MORAN of Kansas (for himself and Mr. POMEROY):

H.R. 4997. A bill to permanently authorize amendments made by the Immigration and Nationality Technical Corrections Act of 1994 for the purpose of permitting waivers of the foreign country residence requirement with respect to certain international medical graduates; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania (for herself, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. HONDA, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. FARR, Mr. WU, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. STARK, Mrs. MCCARTHY, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, and Mr. MEEHAN):

H.R. 4998. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to protect disaster assistance employee reservists when activated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for work at a specific disaster site from termination or demotion in their places of employment; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SHAYS (for himself and Mr. LANGEVIN):

H.R. 4999. A bill to enhance security and protect against terrorist attacks at chemical facilities; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SHAYS (for himself, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. CASE, Mr. OWENS, Mr. STARK, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi):

H.R. 5000. A bill to amend the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 with respect to the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, the Judiciary, Homeland Security, and Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SIMMONS (for himself and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California):

H.R. 5001. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to enhance homeland security information sharing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. SIMMONS (for himself and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California):

H.R. 5002. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for information sharing partnerships, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. SIMMONS (for himself and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California):

H.R. 5003. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for the full and efficient use of open-source intelligence; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. SIMMONS (for himself and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California):

H.R. 5004. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for an Office of Intelligence and Analysis and an Office of Infrastructure Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SMITH of Texas:

H.R. 5005. A bill to make technical changes to Federal firearms laws and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SOLIS:

H.R. 5006. A bill to designate certain public land as wilderness and certain rivers as wild and scenic rivers in the State of California, to designate Salmon Restoration Areas, to establish the Sacramento River National Recreation Area and Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Ms. SOLIS:

H.R. 5007. A bill to require the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide mental health services in languages other than English, as needed, for veterans and family members with limited English proficiency, to expand the scope of mental health services provided to family members of veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WALDEN of Oregon:

H.R. 5008. A bill to authorize the Under Secretary of Technology of the Department of Commerce to award grants to establish up to eight Nanoscience to Commercialization Institutes throughout the United States to develop commercial applications for nanotechnology; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WELDON of Florida (for himself and Mr. SOUDER):

H.R. 5009. A bill to reauthorize the HIV Health Care Services Program under title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico (for herself, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. OTTER, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, and Mr. TERRY):

H.R. 5010. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the credit for electricity produced from certain renewable resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. WOOLSEY:

H.R. 5011. A bill to award posthumously a congressional gold medal to John Pehle in recognition of his contributions to the Nation in helping rescue Jews and other minorities from the Holocaust during World War II; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SHUSTER (for himself and Ms. NORTON):

H. Con. Res. 359. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for

the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SHUSTER (for himself and Ms. NORTON):

H. Con. Res. 360. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas:

H. Con. Res. 362. Concurrent resolution congratulating Prime Minister Portia Simpson-Miller for becoming the first democratically-elected female Prime Minister of Jamaica and the first female head of state; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. FOSSELLA (for himself and Ms. ESHOO):

H. Con. Res. 363. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Health and Human Services should promulgate as expeditiously as possible regulations required under the Public Health Service Act, relating to protections for residents of certain facilities with respect to the use of restraints and involuntary seclusion; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KUCINICH (for himself, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. KUHL of New York, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. BOEHLERT, and Mr. LYNCH):

H. Con. Res. 364. Concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of St. Patrick's Day; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. FOLEY (for himself, Mr. FARR,

Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mrs. BONO, Ms. BORDALLO, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. CASE, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. TANNER, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. KUHL of New York, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. GONZALEZ, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. PORTER, Mr. KELLER, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. SHAW, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. HONDA, Mrs. CAPPS, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. BAKER, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. LANTOS, and Mr. MCINTYRE):

H. Res. 729. A resolution supporting National Tourism Week; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of

Texas (for herself, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. PAUL, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. REYES, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. HINOJOSA, and Mrs. CAPITO):

H. Res. 730. A resolution recognizing the efforts and contributions of The Women's Museum: An Institute for the Future; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. MORAN of Kansas (for himself,

Mr. BURGESS, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. EVANS, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. TANNER, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. TERRY, Mr. OSBORNE, Mr. HULSHOF, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. KELLY, and Mr. RYUN of Kansas):

H. Res. 731. A resolution commending the Patriot Guard Riders for shielding mourning

military families from protesters and preserving the memory of fallen service members at funerals; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 732. A resolution congratulating the Public Broadcasting Service as it celebrates the 15th anniversary season of the nationally televised broadcast program, Public Broadcasting Service's *To The Contrary*, with Bonnie Erbe; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. RYAN of Ohio (for himself, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. WOLF, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. FITZPATRICK of Pennsylvania, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. ROTHMAN, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Ms. HART, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. SWEENEY, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. CROWLEY):

H. Res. 733. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that there should be established an Irish-American Heritage Month; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. CROWLEY, Mrs. MCCARTHY, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. SWEENEY, Mr. WALSH, Mr. McNULTY, and Mr. ENGEL):

H. Res. 734. A resolution calling on the Government of the United Kingdom to immediately establish a full, independent, public judicial inquiry into the murder of Northern Ireland defense attorney Pat Finucane, as recommended by international Judge Peter Cory as part of the Weston Park agreement and a way forward for the Northern Ireland Peace Process; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Ms. WOOLSEY (for herself, Mr. SHAYS, Ms. SOLIS, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. SIMMONS, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. FARR, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. WATSON, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. NADLER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. OLVER, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. HERSETH, Ms. BEAN, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. DEGETTE, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. HOOLEY, Mr. CASE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. SABO, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. OWENS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois):

H. Res. 735. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the "Additional Clarification of Intercollegiate Athletics Policy: Three-Part Test-part Three", issued by the United States Department of Education without notice or opportunity for public comment on March 17, 2005, is inconsistent with longstanding Depart-

ment policies and fundamental principles of equality, is a disservice to our Nation's young women, and should be withdrawn by the Department of Education; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Ms. WATERS introduced a bill (H.R. 5012) for the relief of Rafael Camacho, Rosa B. Camacho, and Rosa Camacho; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 23: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 25: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 115: Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota.
H.R. 269: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 354: Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia.
H.R. 363: Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 376: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 475: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. FILNER, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. WEXLER, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 503: Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.
H.R. 517: Mr. BONNER.
H.R. 552: Mr. SHADEGG.
H.R. 717: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 735: Mr. FILNER, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 791: Ms. HARMAN.
H.R. 792: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts and Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 819: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida.
H.R. 857: Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.
H.R. 916: Mr. MANZULLO.
H.R. 964: Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. HINCHAY, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. CUMMINGS, and Mr. BOEHLERT.
H.R. 1070: Mrs. MUSGRAVE.
H.R. 1106: Mr. MOORE of Kansas and Ms. BERKLEY.
H.R. 1298: Mr. GERLACH.
H.R. 1306: Mr. ROSS and Mr. CARDOZA.
H.R. 1310: Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas and Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 1329: Mr. MOORE of Kansas.
H.R. 1402: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H.R. 1451: Mr. REYES, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. ROTHMAN, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. MORAN of Virginia.
H.R. 1498: Ms. BEAN.
H.R. 1545: Mr. WEXLER.
H.R. 1578: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. FLAKE, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, and Mr. WALDEN of Oregon.
H.R. 1588: Mr. MCINTYRE.
H.R. 1598: Mr. MCINTYRE.
H.R. 1639: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 1807: Mr. REYES, Mr. CLAY, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. CONYERS.
H.R. 1950: Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina.
H.R. 1951: Mr. BOUCHER.
H.R. 2059: Mr. ROTHMAN.
H.R. 2231: Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 2317: Ms. SOLIS, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. ESHOO, and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.
H.R. 2358: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 2369: Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. CARDOZA, and Mr. OBEY.
H.R. 2386: Mr. MCKEON, Mr. WHITFIELD, and Mr. CAMP of Michigan.
H.R. 2592: Mr. MEEK of Florida.
H.R. 2683: Mr. ETHERIDGE.
H.R. 2684: Mr. MCHUGH.
H.R. 2793: Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 2811: Mr. PASTOR and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.

H.R. 2943: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 3127: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California.

H.R. 3159: Mr. SPRATT, Mr. BONNER, Mr. FORD, and Mr. HOLT.

H.R. 3164: Mrs. KELLY and Mr. MCHUGH.

H.R. 3265: Mr. BROWN of Ohio.

H.R. 3352: Mr. ROGERS of Michigan.

H.R. 3361: Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 3385: Mr. WELLER and Mr. CHOCOLA.

H.R. 3413: Mr. WALSH.

H.R. 3559: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SHUSTER, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. BERRY, Mr. HOLDEN and Mr. JENKINS.

H.R. 3628: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin and Mr. RENZI.

H.R. 3644: Mr. SPRATT and Mr. BOSWELL.

H.R. 3779: Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. CARSON, Ms. WATERS, Mr. CARNAHAN and Mr. JEFFERSON.

H.R. 3861: Mr. ROTHMAN.

H.R. 3883: Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. SULLIVAN and Mr. ROYCE.

H.R. 3907: Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia and Mr. CULBERSON.

H.R. 4030: Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 4063: Mr. FATTAH and Mr. SOUDER.

H.R. 4067: Mr. EVANS and Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 4085: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 4092: Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois.

H.R. 4098: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mr. WALSH.

H.R. 4140: Mr. VAN HOLLEN and Mr. CUELLAR.

H.R. 4186: Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan.

H.R. 4226: Mr. ABERCROMBIE.

H.R. 4239: Mr. BEAUPREZ.

H.R. 4318: Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BUYER, Mr. EVERETT, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. KOLBE, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Mr. HULSHOF, Mr. ISSA, and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.

H.R. 4341: Mr. LATHAM and Mr. WALDEN of Oregon.

H.R. 4371: Mr. MORAN of Kansas.

H.R. 4409: Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. FILNER, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, and Mr. ROTHMAN.

H.R. 4450: Mr. SOUDER.

H.R. 4465: Ms. HARMAN, Mr. ROTHMAN, and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.

H.R. 4511: Mr. RAMSTAD and Mr. BEAUPREZ.

H.R. 4542: Mr. SHERMAN, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota.

H.R. 4547: Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina.

H.R. 4551: Mr. JENKINS.

H.R. 4562: Mr. BERMAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.

H.R. 4574: Mr. CASE.

H.R. 4603: Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 4651: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.

H.R. 4657: Ms. BORDALLO.

H.R. 4681: Mr. JINDAL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. BONO, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. MCHUGH,

Mr. KIRK, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. HAYWORTH, and Mr. GINGREY.

H.R. 4683: Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 4685: Mr. HONDA and Mr. BERRY.

H.R. 4725: Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. HALL, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. UPTON, Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, and Mr. MILLER of Florida.

H.R. 4737: Mr. OWENS and Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 4740: Mr. COSTA, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, and Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia.

H.R. 4755: Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota.

H.R. 4760: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 4761: Mr. SOUDER and Mr. GINGREY.

H.R. 4773: Ms. MCKINNEY.

H.R. 4813: Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia.

H.R. 4830: Mr. HERGER and Mr. MILLER of Florida.

H.R. 4834: Mr. EHLERS, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky.

H.R. 4859: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 4867: Mr. GERLACH, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. WU, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. OLVER, Ms. McKINNEY, and Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi.

H.R. 4874: Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. BOYD, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mrs. EMERSON.

H.R. 4881: Mr. SANDERS and Mr. PLATTS.

H.R. 4890: Mr. COOPER, Mr. McCRERY, Mr. CUELLAR, and Mr. HASTINGS of Washington.

H.R. 4899: Mr. HOYER and Mr. McNULTY.

H.R. 4900: Mr. ABERCROMBIE, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H. R. 4902: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. BONNER, Mr. COOPER, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. FORTUÑO, Ms. HART, Mr. HAYES, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. JEFFERSON, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. LEE, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. OTTER, Mr. OXLEY, Mr. POE, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. WELLER, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. WOLF, Mr. AKIN, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. CALVERT, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. FORBES, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr. KIRK, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. McCRERY, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. REGULA, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. TERRY, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. UPTON, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BACA, Mr. BAKER, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. DENT, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GONZALEZ, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. JENKINS, Mr. KING of New York, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. RENZI, Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 4904: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 4914: Mr. FILNER.

H.R. 4915: Mr. McNULTY and Ms. DELAULO.

H.R. 4945: Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 4946: Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. LOBIONDO, and Mr. MILLER of Florida.

H.R. 4949: Mr. FORBES, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. VISCOSKY, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. BONILLA.

H.R. 4950: Mr. BROWN of Ohio.

H.R. 4953: Mr. DINGELL and Mr. EHLERS.

H.R. 4956: Mrs. MCCARTHY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr.

NADLER, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. CLEAVER.

H.J. Res. 78: Mr. MILLER of Florida.

H. Con. Res. 179: Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire.

H. Con. Res. 282: Mr. LANTOS.

H. Con. Res. 318: Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. OLVER, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. NADLER.

H. Con. Res. 340: Mr. MORAN of Virginia.

H. Con. Res. 346: Mr. CUELLAR and Mr. PENCE.

H. Con. Res. 348: Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FARR, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.

H. Con. Res. 357: Mr. BAIRD, Mr. GOODLATTE, and Mr. DICKS.

H. Res. 116: Mr. MORAN of Virginia and Mr. GONZALEZ.

H. Res. 521: Mrs. KELLY and Mr. RUSH.

H. Res. 526: Mr. PENCE.

H. Res. 544: Mr. PAUL and Mr. DELAHUNT.

H. Res. 686: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. CARSON, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. FILNER, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. McDERMOTT, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SABO, Mr. WAXMAN, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. DINGELL.

H. Res. 691: Mr. GONZALEZ.

H. Res. 701: Mr. BASS.

H. Res. 703: Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, and Ms. KAPTUR.

H. Res. 719: Mr. MCHUGH.

H. Res. 723: Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, and Mr. LANGEVIN.

H. Res. 728: Mr. PITTS.

DISCHARGE PETITIONS— ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

The following Members added their names to the following discharge petitions:

Petition 3 by Mr. EDWARDS on House Resolution 271: Maxine Waters and Robert A. Brady.

Petition 4 by Ms. SLAUGHTER on House Resolution 460: Robert A. Brady.

Petition 5 by Mr. WAXMAN on House Resolution 537: Robert A. Brady.

Petition 6 by Mr. ABERCROMBIE on House Resolution 543: Robert A. Brady and Elijah E. Cummings.

Petition 7 by Ms. HERSETH on House Resolution 568: Charles A. Gonzalez, Maxine Waters, Robert A. Brady, Cynthia McKinney, Rush D. Holt, Brian Baird, and Ed Case.

Petition 8 by Mr. WAXMAN on House Resolution 570: Charles A. Gonzalez, Maxine Waters, Robert A. Brady, Cynthia McKinney, Rush D. Holt, Brian Baird, and Jim Davis.

Petition 9 by Mr. BOSWELL on House Resolution 584: Maxine Waters, Stephen F. Lynch, Richard E. Neal, William D. Delahunt, John T. Salazar, Joseph Crowley, Bobby L. Rush, Ron Kind, Charles B. Rangel, Earl Pomeroy, Chaka Fattah, Tim Ryan, David Wu, Jose E. Serrano, David R. Obey,

Jerry F. Costello, Edolphus Towns, Luis V. Gutierrez, Maurice D. Hinchey, Xavier Becerra, Michael E. Capuano, Edward J. Markey, Robert A. Brady, Anthony D. Weiner, Louise McIntosh Slaughter, Howard L. Berman, Lucille Roybal-Allard, Lincoln Davis, Robert Wexler, Carolyn C. Kilpatrick, Diana DeGette, George Miller, Chet Edwards, Michael M. Honda, Emanuel Cleaver, Adam B. Schiff, Loretta Sanchez, Rosa L. DeLauro, Steve Israel, Robert E. (Bud) Cramer, Jr., Bart Gordon, Melvin L. Watt, Nita M. Lowey, Chris Van Hollen, Ed Case, Robert E. Andrews, David Scott, Jim Davis, Ike Skelton, Gene Taylor, Ted Strickland, James L. Oberstar, Alan B. Mollohan, Norman D. Dicks, Kendrick B. Meek, and Ed Pastor.

Petition 10 by Ms. HERSETH on House Resolution 585: Maxine Waters, Stephen F. Lynch, Richard E. Neal, John T. Salazar, William D. Delahunt, Joseph Crowley, Bobby L. Rush, Jim Cooper, Ron Kind, Charles B. Rangel, Earl Pomeroy, Chaka Fattah, Tim Ryan, David Wu, Jose E. Serrano, David R. Obey, Jerry F. Costello, Luis V. Gutierrez, Anthony D. Weiner, Henry Cuellar, Maurice D. Hinchey, Xavier Becerra, Michael E. Capuano, Edward J. Markey, Robert A. Brady, Louise McIntosh Slaughter, Howard L. Berman, Lucille Roybal-Allard, Zoe Lofgren, Lincoln Davis, Robert Wexler, Mike McIntyre, Carolyn C. Kilpatrick, Diana DeGette, George Miller, Chet Edwards, Michael M. Honda, Emanuel Cleaver, Adam B. Schiff, Loretta Sanchez, Rosa L. DeLauro, Robert E. (Bud) Cramer, Jr., Bart Gordon, Melvin L. Watt, Brian Baird, Sander M. Levin, Nita M. Lowey, Ed Case, Robert E. Andrews, William J. Jefferson, Jim Davis, Ike Skelton, Gene Taylor, Ted Strickland, James L. Oberstar, Alan B. Mollohan, Norman D. Dicks, and Ed Pastor.

Petition 11 by Mr. BARROW on House Resolution 614: Charles A. Gonzalez, Maxine Waters, Benjamin L. Cardin, William J. Jefferson, Dan Boren, Maurice D. Hinchey, Daniel Lipinski, Cynthia McKinney, James E. Clyburn, Zoe Lofgren, Edolphus Towns, Carolyn C. Kilpatrick, Luis V. Gutierrez, Melissa L. Bean, Loretta Sanchez, Earl Pomeroy, Robert Wexler, John Conyers, Jr., Brian Baird, Mark Udall, James L. Oberstar, Robert E. Andrews, Gregory W. Meeks, Richard E. Neal, Jim Costa, Tim Holden, Diane E. Watson, Jim Davis, Ike Skelton, Gene Taylor, Marcy Kaptur, John T. Salazar, David Wu, Nick J. Rahall, II, Alan B. Mollohan, and Norman D. Dicks.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 4939

OFFERED BY: MS. MILLENDER-MCDONALD

AMENDMENT No. 38: Page 59, line 1, insert “(increased by \$50,000,000)” after the dollar figure.